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The Cameron Herald

SPECIAL HERALD BICENTENNIAL SECTION INSIDE

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Vol. 117 No. 48 — Cameron, Milam County, Texas, Herald, August 23, 1976 — 16 Pages Today

Now With F.M.L.

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Milam-Areans

Police Force Renewed

ROCKDALE

Rockdale's police force, cut to one last week by the resignation of the chief and four officers, is approaching full strength again with three full-time policemen now on the job. Wayne Skarka, 21, of Temple is the newest addition to the force. Skarka joins acting chief Felipe Martinez and James A. Mortimer on the local force. The acting chief said two certified officers and a former policeman are serving part time.

Woman, Mortician Charged

CALDWELL

Charges of tampering with physical evidence have been filed against a Burleson County woman and a Brazos County mortician arising from the death of a baby who died July 20. An autopsy had been scheduled on the child, but the woman told the mortician that she would not permit it and he followed her request. The woman was on probation for the murder of her boyfriend in 1974.

Child Fatally Shot

GATESVILLE

An attempt to break up a dog fight by using a .22 rifle as a club ended in death for a 2 1/2 year old boy at Gatesville when the rifle discharged and a bullet struck him in the throat. The neighbor, who had attempted to stop the dog fight, grabbed up the child and rushed him to the hospital where he was pronounced dead.

Fund Going For Ambulance

THORNDALE

The Ronnie Conoloy Memorial Fund has been pledged toward the purchase of a new ambulance for Thorndale. This fund, the result of a benefit held in May and other contributions, has been designated by Ronnie's parents as the major part of the cost of a new ambulance. The funds amount to $9.500.

Encephalitis Case Confirmed

WACO

An official of Texas Department of Health Resources says a case of encephalitis has been confirmed at Kerens and that there is one other suspected case in that same area. Health officials have found some mosquitoes in the Waco area which are the type to carry encephalitis (sleeping sickness) but lab tests show the insects are not carrying the disease.

Collision Kills Man

HEARNE

A 34-year-old Marlin man died en route to Scott and White Hospital in Temple at 5:45 Aug. 10 after his car collided with a tractor-trailer that same day one mile north of Calvert on Highway 6. According to the investigating officer the car crossed the center stripe into the left lane and collided head-on with the truck.

Sick Leave Pay OKed

BELTON

Bell County commissioners court authorized sick leave payments for 1975 but voted to terminate such payments after Oct. 1, 1976. The move came after the court heard Attorney General John Hill's opinion that sick leave payments were legal. The possibility of a lawsuit to acquire accrued sick leave payments was discussed by the court.

Tight Budget Set

McGREGOR

A tax rate of $1.83--the same as the past year--was recommended to the McGregor School Board by the superintendent. The same tax rate is based on what the superintendent calls an "extremely tight budget" of $1,035,000.

QUADS VISIT DENTIST--The Hanson quads, 2 years old of San Antonio came to Cameron for their first visit to the dentist Thursday. They are the only identical girl quads in this part of the world and are the daughters of Al and Shelia Hansen of San Antonio, who also have two other daughters. From left are Jody Cahoon holding Brooke, Margaret Cahoon holding Claire, Dr. George Bowman, and Al holding Darcy and Alison.

Alcoa Opens Scholarship Race

Sons and daughters of Alcoans throughout Central Texas are applying for two $4,000 four-year Alcoa Foundation college scholarships awarded annually at the company's Rockdale Works.

Since the corporate-wide program began in 1953, 34 scholarships have been given to dependents of local employees, according to Fred P. Bergeron, Alcoa's Texas area manager. Last spring's winners were Andy Harper of Rockdale and Elizabeth Shelander of Cameron.

Bergeron said applications for this year's scholarships are available at the plant through departmental supervisors. Candidates must fill out applications and give them to their high school principals no later than Tuesday, Sept. 7.

Applicants must have at least C-plus average or be in the upper half of their senior class, Bergeron said.

The award program includes stepchildren of Alcoans if they reside in the employee's household, whether or not they have been legally adopted, he explained.

Also, candidates' parents must have three years continuous service with the company. Sons and daughters of retired or deceased Alcoans are eligible, if their parent completed three years continuous service immediately prior to retirement or death.

The local Alcoa Foundation college scholarship selection board, chaired by Dr. Walter Vincent, superintendent of the Rockdale Independent School District, will screen applications to determine eligibility.

"Students who qualify will meet at Rockdale High School Sept. 16 to complete applications to take the Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) Nov. 6, administered by the College Entrance Examination Board," Bergeron said.

"When tests results are returned, the local selection board will review candidates' credentials, considering factors of scholastic achievement and promise and such personal qualities as character and leadership ability. Although financial need is not a primary consideration, all other things being equal, it is a factor."

Scholarships are payable at the rate of $1,000 per year. Bergeron said each scholarship carries with it an unrestricted grant of $1,200 for the college or university attended by the recipient.

Open House Set Tuesday At Local Library

An open house at the Cameron Public Library will be held Tuesday from 4 to 6 p.m. with Friends of the Library as hosts. The public is invited to visit the library and become acquainted with its many services during the event.

Fees for membership in the Friends organization may be paid during the open house, or mailed in the postage-free envelope sent out to former members.

Fees are $25 for honorary member, single or couple; $15 supporting member, single or couple; $10 sustaining member, single or couple; $5 individual member; and $1 for students. Clubs may become Friends of the Library by paying a $10 fee.

August is membership month for Friends, and a book sale will also be held Tuesday in conjunction with the open house. The sale will be held on Houston Street across from the Mall. Books in good condition will be accepted for the sale, hard cover or paperback. The books may be taken to the library or call Mrs. Edison Fikes for pickup before Tuesday.

Friends of the Library plan a number of programs for members during the coming year.

Pickup Strikes Culvert

Kenneth W. Cole of Cameron suffered a broken nose and facial cuts when his pickup went out of control and struck a culvert about 3 miles west of the city on Thursday afternoon. He was treated and released from a local hospital.

Dornhoefer Dies; Was Victim Of Accidental Shot

Funeral for Fritz W. Dornhoefer, 81, of the Gay Hill community near Rockdale was held at 10 a.m. Friday in Rockdale. Dornhoefer died Tuesday in a Temple hospital after being injured in a shooting incident at his farm last Sunday night.

Dornhoefer was shot through the neck and head by his own .22 rifle between 9 and 10 p.m. Sunday, according to Rockdale Constable Spud Caywood, who investigated.

Caywood said Dornhoefer, who lives about three miles west of Rockdale on the old Gay Hill Road, left his house with the rifle about 9 p.m. telling his wife he was "going to shoot an armadillo which had been rooting in his hay."

"He was gone a long time," Caywood said, "and his wife got worried about him." Dornhoefer was found near his home with a wound in his throat and head. He was taken to Richards Memorial Hospital by a Rockdale police department ambulance then transferred to Scott and White in Temple.

Rogers Post Office Seeks New Site

The U. S. Postal Service is seeking a suitable site on which to build and lease a new post office building at Rogers. Postmaster F. W. Durnal said here today.

The "preferred area" for site consideration is bounded on the north by the SC & SF Railroad, on the east by Pine Street, on the south by Oak Avenue, and on the west by Elm Street.

Property owners are asked to submit their site offerings not later than Sept. 3 to Thomas E. King, real estate officer, Dallas Field Real Estate and Buildings Office, U. S. Postal Service, P. O. Drawer 239, Dallas, TX 75221.

Boosters To Meet

The Yoeman Booster Club will have its first meeting of the year Monday at 7 p.m. at the field house. A video tape of the A&M Consolidated scrimmage will be shown.

County Demos Name Hensley Chairman

A Cameron native has been named chairman of the Milam County Democratic Committee in a recent session of the group. He is Debs B. Hensley of the Hoyte Community.

Hensley succeeds Carroll Glaser of Rockdale who had been chairman until he was recently appointed to the elective job of member of the Rockdale school board of trustees, necessitating his resignation from the Demo chairman post.

Hensley was born in Cameron, was a graduate of Yoe High School and Southwest Texas State University in San Marcos. He has had a varied career ranging from teacher to executive positions with the U. S. Postal Service. He retired after 28 years with the Postal Service in June 1971 and returned to Milam County.

During his varied career in executive posts Hensley was active in civic, charitable, educational, and political areas.

He is currently a trustee of the Southwest Texas State University Foundation and a member of the board of directors of that University's alumni association, having received the distinguished alumnus award in 1975. He is a member of the Cameron Lions Club, National Association of Retired Federal Employees, and a member of the Masonic Lodge in Waco.

Hensley succeeds Glaser, Rockdale attorney, who served as county Demo chairman from August 1973 until he was appointed to a position on the Rockdale school board July 20, succeeding the late Glen Byer.

Salary Increases Proposed By Commissioners

Salary increases for county officials will be considered by county commissioners at the budget hearing August 30 at the courthouse at 10 a.m.

The following proposals for increases are made:

County judge $800; county clerk $800; tax assessor-collector $800; county commissioners $1,400; county attorney $5,000; sheriff $855.98; county treasurer $560; district clerk $704.

Each of the constables with the exception of constable Pct. 4, $114.24; Constable, Pct. 4 $276.23; justice of the peace Pct. 1 $807.92; justice of the peace Pct. 2 $28.56; justice of the peace, Pct. 3 $57.12; justice of the peace Pct. 4, $1,716; justice of the peace Pct. 5 $24; and justice of the peace Pct. 8 $57.12.

EXCHANGE STUDENT Tomoko Ito, center, receives a pair of cowboy boots from the Evening Lions Club Thursday night. At left is Douglas Buck, club president, and Milton Wright, zone chairman. Tomoko presented the Cameron Club with a banner from her father's Lions Club in Japan. She is a guest of the Wrights and is one of 30 foreign exchange students who are visiting Texas.

Reuters International News Briefs

HAVANA

Angolan President Agostinho Neto has flown home from his first official visit to Cuba with a pocketful of wide-ranging cooperation agreements and a reiterated assurance that Cuban troops will be at hand as needed. Nine months after the first Cuban combat troops landed in Luanda to save his Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola (MPLA) from a desperate situation, a new phase in relations has opened.

TRIPOLI

After the little red book of China's Chairman Mao Tse-Tung, the world is about to receive the "green book" of Libya's colonel Muammar Al Gaddafi. According to Col. Gaddafi the green book, to be published in English and French in August, solves the fundamental democratic, economic, and philosophical dilemmas of modern man and will profoundly change the world.

NEW ZEALAND

New Zealand, whose athletic links with South Africa spurred an African boycott of the Montreal Olympics, is itself beginning to feel racial strain. After a hstory of harmony between its 2.7 million whites and 350,000 brown-skinned Maoris, a fresh sensitivity to domestic racial issues has appeared. A flow of Pacific Island migrants has brought ne w problems to the country.

LUSAKA

The 1,250 mile Benguela Railroad, snaking from the Angolian port of Lobito on the Atlantic across Zaire to the heartlands of Central Africa, is due to reopen soon to what could be an uncertain future. The line, closed since last August by the Angolian civil war, will resume normal operations as soon as technical conditions are met, radio Luanda reports.

BRUSSELS

The Soviet Union maintains a huge fleet of warships in the Murmansk area to take advantage of one of NATO's most glaring weaknesses in case of war, according to western military sources here. They pinpoint the weakness as the need for the United States to put troops, tanks, and planes into continental Europe with lightning speed in the event of hostilities breaking out between east and west.

BEIRUT

Flickering candles and glowing gas lamps are now familiar features of the night scene in east Beirut. Equally familiar is the sight of scores of people, carrying buckets, gathering around artesian wells or broken water pipes to collect their daily bath water. Since fighting broke out in June for control of the refugee camp, electricity has been cut off and there is not enough pressure to pump water up the taller buildings

PARIS

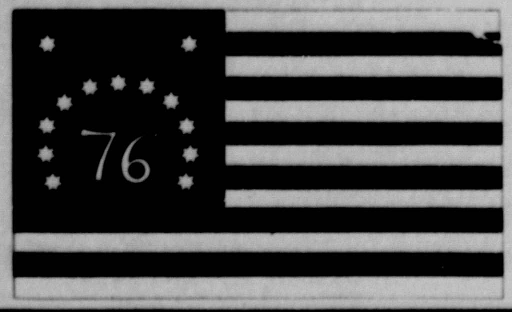
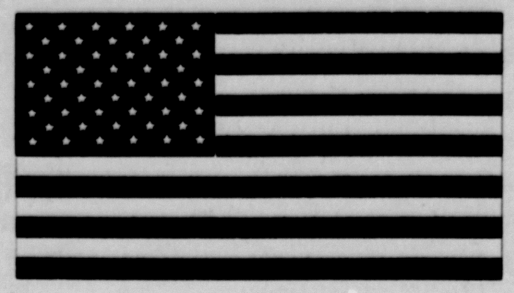
Western shipowners claim the Soviet Union is undercutting freight rates at a time when the shipping market is already depressed, according to an official report published here. The report, from the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, which groups together 24 major western industralized nations, quotes the shipowners as saying the Soviet Union is offering discounts of up to 35 percent on some commodities.

BOGOTA

Airline pilots have condemned Bogota's major El Dorado Airport as unsafe for modern jetliners. They have awarded it a black star--the formal warning that they consider it inadequately equipped for safe flying. Six other busy Colombian airports have been awarded black stars by the International Federation of Airline Pilots Associations. They are at Barranquilla, Cartagema, Cali, Leticia, Medellin, and San Adres.

CAMERON AREA BUSINESS REVIEW

THE VERY BEST IN BUSINESS AND SERVICE

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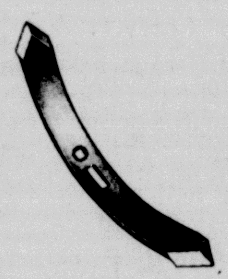
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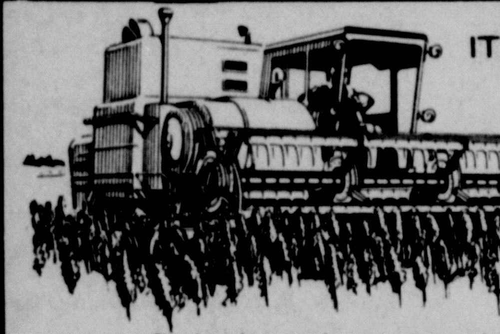
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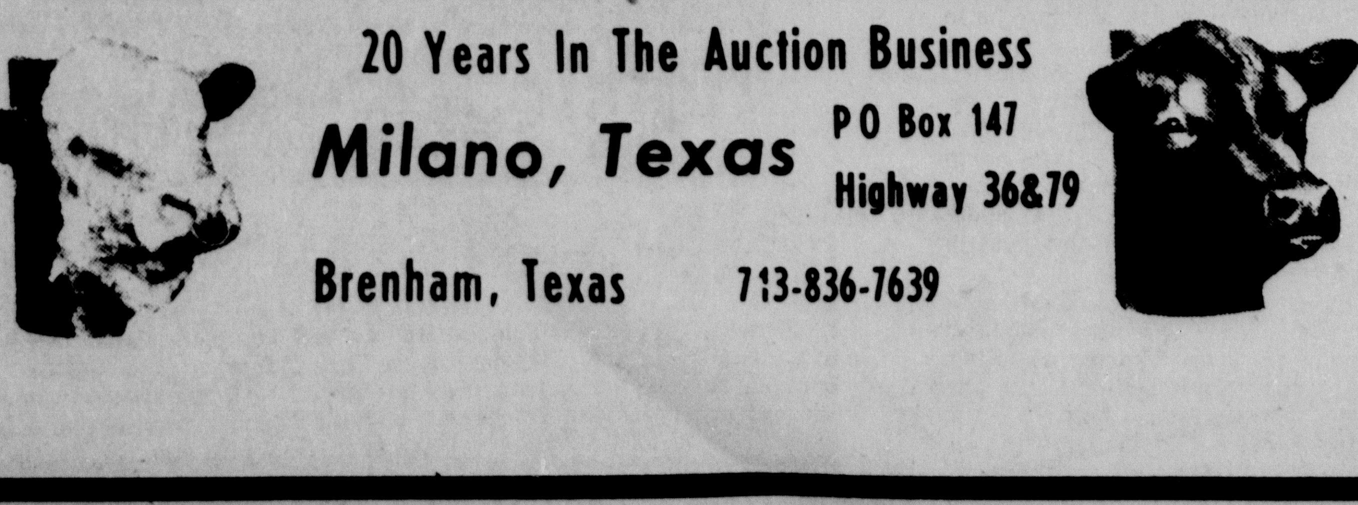

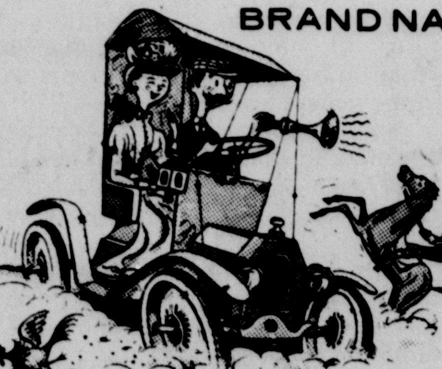
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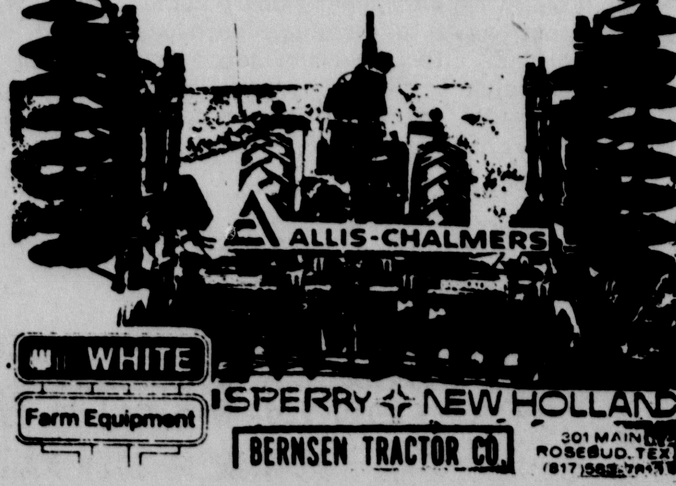
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Girls Softball Teams Complete Summer Play

The Cameron Girls' softball league, under the direction of the Cameron Area Ministerial Assoc., completed an exciting summer of competition. Two divisions competed, the Junior Division for girls in grades 1-6, and the Senior Division for girls in grades 7-10.

In the Senior Division, the winning team was the Disco Girls, sponsored by Odessa's Barber Shop. The Disco Girls, 9-0, were coached by Irene Tindle, Bobby Joe Tindle, and Dennis Butler.

The Duke and Ayres Gold-Diggers, 6-3, were in second place. They were coached by Jessie Mae Taylor, Lawrence Lowe, and Ricky Kelley.

In third place was Wildfire, 2-7, coached by Willie B. Clark.

The Winders, sponsored by Ray and Peg's Style Shop, ended the season with a 1-8 record. They were coached by Judy Gallimore, Jerome Ross, Lillie Mae Lyons, Sandra Braodus, and Debbie Fleming.

The All-Stars handed the Disco Girls their only defeat in the final game of the season.

The Junior Division was won by the Dr. Pepper Little Rascals, 7-1, who finished the season with a win over the All-Stars. They were coached by Betty Kopriva, Dorothy Vansa, Tammy barrett, Renee Krenek, and Vicki Brashear.

The Road Runners, sponsored by L&M Jewelers, kept pace with the Rascals to the last two games. They completed a 5-3 season. They were coached by Bruce Crook, Shirley Keim, and James and Sandy Walthall.

Crow's Termites, coached by Betty Lindeman and Ruby Swanzy, logged a 4-4 record, including the only win over the Rascals.

The Little Amps, sponsored by R&R Electric and coached by Rebecca Riola, Kim Fritz, and Janet Angell, were tied with the Peanut Patties, coached by Charlie McGregor, Gary Simpkins and Joe Lee Humplik at 2-6.

The Ministerial Association would like to express special thanks to Wayne Pemberton, Jonnie Barrett, and Tammy Barrett for their help in promoting the league. Plans are now being made for next year's season.

Buckholts

Mrs. Edwin Gandy

Buckholts school started Monday morning with a full schedule for the day with the buses running and the lunch room opening.

The Glaser family reunion was held Sunday, August 15 at Mr. and Mrs. Joe Glaser's Lake house. There was a large crowd to turn out for the event.

Don Glaser and daughter from Dallas spent the weekend with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Arnold Glaser and they also attended the family reunion.

Mrs. Evelyn Loftin and Mrs. Gertie Svetlik visited with N. W. Gandy Sr. of Temple.

Mr. and Mrs. Nealon Peeler and the Edwin Peeler family spent a day in Rogers visiting relatives.

Mrs. Anna Criswell of San Antonio is here visiting with Mr. and Mrs. C. R. Criswell.

Visiting with Joe Loftin and family was Mrs. Jerry Allison and children of California.

We are glad to welcome Mr. and Mrs. Larry Davis to our community. They have been living in Wyoming.

There will be a meeting Tuesday, August 24 at 8 p.m. at the Buckholts Museum. The business will be concerning the museum and how it might be kept open. All interested persons please attend.

OBITUARY

Conley

Funeral for John B. Conley, 84, of Cameron was at 3 p.m. Thursday in Marek-Burns-Laywell Funeral Home in Cameron with Minister Odell Carter officiating. Burial was in Oak Hill Cemetery.

Mr. Conley died Tuesday in a Marlin hospital after a long illness.

He was born in Tennessee and was a veteran of World War I. He was a retired farmer and a member of the Church of Christ.

Surviving are his wife, Mrs. Sallie Mae Conley of Cameron; three brothers, Homer L. Conley of Cameron, W. J. Conley of Blanco, and H. H. Conley of Corpus Christi; two sisters, Mrs. Ruby Lee Gunnels of Cameron and Mrs. Jessie Kirkland of Eddy.

Preddy

Melissa Houston Preddy, 23, of Mount Pleasant, died of injuries Wednesday night received in an automobile accident in that city.

Funeral was at 2 p.m. Friday at the Bates-Cooper-Weems Funeral Home in Mount Pleasant. Burial was at 11 a.m. Saturday in the Marlow Cemetery near Cameron.

Surviving are her husband, Mike Preddy of Mount Pleasant; her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Johnny Houston of Cameron; six brothers, Douglas Parker of Rogers, James Parker of Carthage, George Houston, John Houston, Danny Houston, and Richard Houston, all of Cameron; and one sister, Mrs. Alma Henson of Minerva.

Green Funeral Home of Cameron was in charge of local arrangements.

Sharp-Tracy

Mrs. Leroy Guillote

Charles and Doris Galler of Spring are proud to announce the arrival of their son, Charles Dwayne Jr., born August 9 in a Spring hospital. Grandmother is Mallita Galler of Houston and his aunt, Agnes Rinn.

Jimmy Coffman of Austin spent a day with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Howard Coffman.

Cynthia Harbuz of Memphis, Tenn., Mrs. Edward Cousins and children have been visiting their folks, Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Harbuz and Norris.

Guests of Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Schroeder were Edgar Hoppe of Austin and Jack and Ruby Whitley of Lexington.

Mrs. Wavy Charles' guests were Mrs. Floyd Mullinax, Mr. and Mrs. James Mullinax of Houston, and Mr. and Mrs. Jimmy Mullinax of Pasadena.

The RHS senior class of 1966 held their 10-year class reuion at the Rockdale Country Club Aug. 14. Those present were Mr. and Mrs. Lively Williams (Nancy Baggestt) of Hearne; Mr. and Mrs. David Summers (Sue Petty) of Houston; Mr. and Mrs. Charles Balch (Kathy Laffere) of Cameron; Dr. and Mrs. Rich Reddington (Penny Graves) of Waxahachie; Reed Davis of Sharp; and Cynthia Harbuz of Memphis, Tenn.

Afraid of strangers? That particular phobia is called, "Xenophobia."

BURLINGTON NEWS

Mrs. Gerald Foshea

Mr. and Mrs. Joe Hromcik spent the weekend with their son . Mr. and Mrs. Frankie Hromcik and family of Bryan recently.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Sukup of Rosebud visited Mr. and Mrs. Joe Hromcik.

Mrs. Will Stoebner entertained the 42 club.

Mrs. Aleta Marek, Mrs. Geral d Foshea, and Mrs. Tom White of San Antonio visited Mrs. Lynn Heugatter and Alana Marie at King's Daughters Hospital of Temple and Mr. and Mrs. Billy Kilpatrick and Kelli .

Mr. and Mrs. W. G. Marek and Allison Heugatter of Temple had supper with Mr. and Mrs. Buddy Bailey and family of Wildeville.

Allison Heugatter of Temple spent a week with her grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. W. G. Marek.

Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Sefcik of Dallas visited Mr. and Mrs. Herman Dorner Sr. recently.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Cabron of Robstown visited Mr. and Mrs. Herman Dorner Sr.

Mrs. Guy Davis and children, Pam and Omar Hall of Nolanville visited Mr. and Mrs. Billy Benesh.

Mrs. Aleta Marek and Eddy Janke spent a while with Mrs. J. T. Prescott and Jake.

Maysfield

Mrs. J. P. Wise

Ewbre Smith and sister, & Miss Etta Smith of Austin visited Mrs. E. B Yager Tuesday. They also visited their uncle, E. B. Yager in a Cameron nursing home.

Mrs. Marguerite Massengale joined her daughter Mrs. Ed Weeren and children of Austin in Temple Tuesday for a visit in Wichita Falls with Mrs. Massengale's sister, Mrs. Jane David.

Mrs. Merle McLerran and Mrs. Anna Lou Brooks visited Mr. and Mrs. Fred Hefti Sunday afternoon.

Mrs. Leila Thweatt of Georgetown spent Tuesday night with Mrs. Roy Newton. She also visited Mrs. Willy Phipp and Mr. and Mrs. Rush Price.

Mrs. Malcom Marin of Seguin spent several days with her mother, Mrs. E. B. Yager last week and visited her father, Mr. E. B Yager in a Cameron rest home.

Mrs. Dock Thweatt and grandson Joey McElwrath and Mrs. Leota Thweatt visited the Bryan Floyds of Rockdale Sunday afternoon.

Mrs. Dorothy McKelvy of Austin attended the funeral of her brother, Mr. Milton Floyd Tuesday.

Kelly Gleason, who as been visiting his grandmother, Mrs. Doris Gleason, left Thursday for his home in St. Louis.

The community was saddened Monday morning when we got the news of Mr. E. B. Yager's death. We extend our sympathy to Mrs. Yager and her children.

The latest U.S. census showed there were about 1,264,000 high school students in the state of Pennsylvania.

About 250,000 of them take vocational training through a state-assisted program to provide work skills for Pennsylvanians.

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Milam Motel
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7-11 Store No. 2
St. Edward Hosp.
Newton Hosp.
Safeway
Cameron Smoke House
Green's Grocery
Farm & Ranch Store

THE CAMERON HERALD
AS NEAR AS YOUR MAILBOX

$AVE with these Early-in-the-Week Food Values...

DOUBLE STAMP DAY TUESDAY & SATURDAY
GOLD BOND STAMPS

STORE HOURS
SUN: 9 AM-6 PM
MON-SAT: 7:30 AM TO 9PM
WE ACCEPT FOOD STAMPS

FOOD SAVINGS BY THE FISTFUL!

HEAVY BEEF SIRLOIN STEAK LB. $1.29

DEL MONTE SWEET PEAS 3 NO. 303 CAN $1

DEL MONTE Prune Juice QT. SIZE 59¢

DEL MONTE CUT GREEN BEANS 4 NO. 303 CAN $1.00

DEL MONTE Bananas LB. 19¢

NEUHOFF SUMMER SAUSAGE LB. $1.19

PASCAL CELERY STALK 29¢

RED & WHITE FLOUR 5 LB. 59¢ LIMIT 1 W/$7.50 PURCHASE

RED & WHITE Black Pepper 2 4-oz. 89¢ LIMIT 2

DEL MONTE SPINACH 4 NO. 303 CAN $1.00

DEL MONTE WHOLE CORN 12-oz. CAN 3\$1.00

HEAVY BEEF CHUCK ROAST LB. 79¢

DOWNY Fabric Softener 25¢ OFF PACK 64-oz. SIZE $1.87

FAMILY PACK PORK CHOPS LB. $1.29

KLEENEX FACIAL TISSUE 2 125-ct. 89¢

BOUNCE FABRIC SOFTENER 40-ct. PKG. $1.59 20¢ OFF PACK

LOWE'S RED & WHITE
SPECIALS FOR August 23, 24, 25

RED & WHITE FOOD STORES
—where friendly people help you save!

Day School Registration Set At TJC

Registration for fall semester day school classes at Temple Junior College will be held on Monday and Tuesday, August 23 and 24. Students must have had an advising conference with a TJC counselor before they can be admitted to register.

Students who completed advisement were assigned a time to report for registration. They should report to the Fine Arts Building about 15 minutes prior to the time they are scheduled to register. Students must present their copy of their advisor's slip to be admitted to register.

All freshmen students are required to register for and to attend freshman orientation which will meet on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, August 25-27. Fall semester day school classes will begin on Monday, August 30.

Night Class Registration

Registration for fall semester night school classes at Temple Junior College will be held on Thursday, August 26 from 5:30 to 8 p.m. in the Fine Arts Building. All students should preregister before that, if possible. This will reduce the time required for registration on August 26.

Students who have not preregistered must report to the Admissions and Records Office to begin registration.

Fall semester night school classes will begin on Monday, August 30. The last date for late registration for the fall semester is September 8.

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING RATES

Run 1 time 8¢ per word
Run 2 times 7¢ per word and 7¢ per word any additional insertion.

Cash with copy for classified ads $2.50 or less.
Minimum cost per ad $1.25.
Card of Thanks -- $2.50
Display ads per column inch $1.55
Deadline for Ads:
Tues.--Noon
Fri.--1 p.m.

The publisher does not guarantee the financial responsibility of any firm or individual in connection with ads appearing under the "Business Opportunities" or other classifications and requiring CASH INVESTMENT.

Readers are urged to make a personal investigation of all such ads.

Wanted

WANTED: Small 2-row tractor (older type) but must have starter. Also, 3 to 5 disc breaking plow. Temple 773-1390, H. J. Daude, Rt. 5, Temple TX 76501. 48-2tc

For Rent

FOR RENT: Furnished brick house, central heat and air, 509 N. Houston, appointment only. Call Waco 1-754-4403. 47 tfc

To Buy Or Sell

FOR SALE OR TRADE: Four good used cars, one motorcycle. Phone 697-6472, 507 E. First St. 47-2tp

WE PAY top dollars for good, clean, used cars and trucks. Gaither Motor Co., Rockdale, Texas. 446-3413. 30-tfc

COOK'S SWAP SHOP--we buy and sell used furniture and misc. 697-9257, 1405 N. Travis. 41-10tc

For Sale

FOR SALE: House to be moved from 200 E. 6. Phone 697-2655. 48-2tp

FOR SALE: House to be torn down, $100. Call 817-593-2372 or see Alfred Vrazel at Yarrellton. 47-2tc

"FEEL BETTER" Look better, 30-day guarantee, natural food supplements, Lovue Organic Cosmetics, BasicH, Shaklee, assistant-supervisor 817-697-3262. 45-4tc

BALED HAY FOR SALE: Also stacks 6 and 3 tons. Pettus Ranch, Thrall, 512-893-2036 or 512-352-3489. 101-tfc

FOR SALE: Portable zig-zag sewing machine and case. Call 697-3213. 42-tfc

WANT to buy, antiques, call Pat Sanders, 697-2187, Cameron. 43-tfc

FOR SALE: 30 gallon electric water heater. $50. Call 697-2911 after 5 p.m. 48-2tp

3 2-FT. TALL Callie Giant Bermuda and Alica Sprigs for July and August planting. W. H. McCormick, 642-3404, Rogers. 37-14tc

DESKS, Chairs, files, safes, save 20 to 50%. New, large selection. Cash & Carry. Weekdays 9 to 5:30; Saturday 9 to 1. BEST BUY, 3300 Franklin, Waco. 38-6tpM

CLOSING out all 1976 color TVs; Special on 25" Spanish or Early American console $550; 19" color portable $335; Prompt TV repair service, antennaes, and antennae service, Cunningham TV, Milano Hwy., 697-3773 open till 9 p.m. 48-1tc

FOR SALE: 40" Hot Point electric range. 697-2370. 48-1tp

IT PAYS TO ADVERTISE...ADVERTISE WHERE IT PAYS... WANT ADS!

Help Wanted

APPLICATIONS being taken for: assistant manager trainee. Mature hard working, bondable, great working conditions, good insurance and profit share, must have sales experience. Contact Gibson's Discount Center. 47-tfc

HELP WANTED: Person for paste-up and darkroom work. About 25 hours per week. Apply in person to Frank M. Luecke, Cameron Herald. 45-tfc

NEEDED IMMEDIATELY: LVN, 11-7, Supervisor for Heritage House Nursing Home. Excellent benefits and pay. If interested, contact: Rosebud Medical Services, Inc., Rosebud, TX, 817-583-7985. 46-6tc

IMMEDIATE OPENINGS: LVN's for 3-11 and 11-7 shifts. Heritage House Nursing Home. If interested contact: Rosebud Medical Services., Inc., Rosebud, TX 817-583-7985. 46-6tc

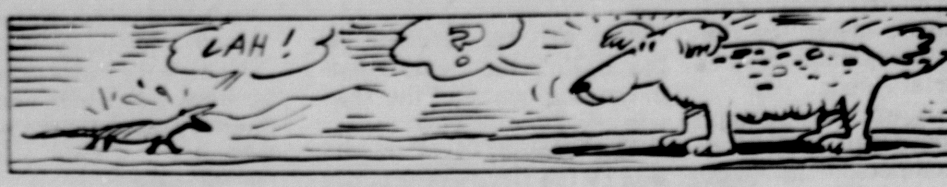
WANTED: RNs, LVNs, or GVNs with current work certificate for 3-11 and 11-7 shifts. Leisure Lodge, 1100 Brown St., Hearne, TX 713-279-5361. 48-tfc

SHEET METAL WORKERS: Must be experienced with gutter, downspouts, gravel guard, metal work pertaining to roofing. Good pay and company benefits, STAHR & GREGORY, INC., Box 186, 2427 W. Adams, Temple, TX 773-9051. 48-tfc

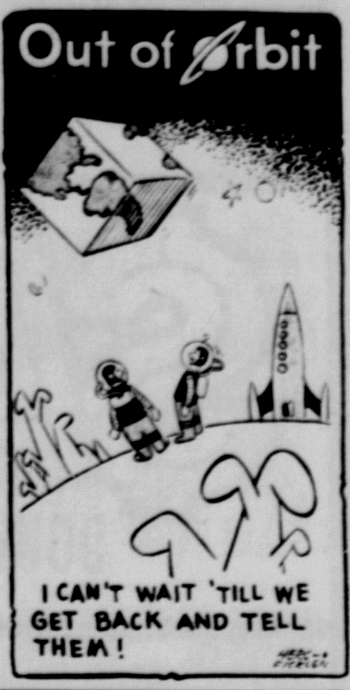
Automotive

1974 CHEV. 2-dr. Malibu, fully equipped, 11,000 original miles. 1973 Chev. 4-dr. Caprice classic, fully equipped. 46,000 original miles. Call 697-6907 or 697-9209. 48-2tc

FOR SALE: 1973 650 Yamaha motorcycle. Call 697-6880. 48-2tc



A chameleon's tongue is as long as its body!



USED MOWERS
1 each: Riding mower
Self-propelled mower
Regular push mower
USED CHAIN SAWS
1 each: 12" Stihl
16" Stihl
Heavy duty McCulloch
MILAM AUTO
Cameron, Texas

FOR FUNERAL INSURANCE CALL 697-3661
MAREK-BURNS LAYWELL Funeral Home

We Are Your Authorized Dealer for
FRIGIDAIRE
- REFRIGERATORS
- FOOD FREEZERS
- RANGES
- WASHERS
- DRYERS

NATIONAL BUILDING CENTER
446-5884
108 S. Main
Rockdale

COW POKES By Ace Reid

"I used $800.00 worth of fertilizer on this field, all that happened wuz the rocks got bigger!"

COMPLIMENTS
BUCKHOLTS STATE BANK
WE CARE

GIBSON'S DISCOUNT CENTER

800 EAST FIRST STREET HIGHWAY 77 EAST CAMERON, TEXAS
(817) 697-6505

your BANKAMERICARD welcome
master charge THE INTERBANK CARD
OPEN 9 A.M.-9 P.M. MON.-SAT.

The Staff Of Gibsons Joins The Millions Of Other People In Saying "Happy 200th Birthday America And Be Assured That Gibson's Will Make Their Contribution To The New Era By Providing Continued Excellent Service And Top Quality Products At Low, Low Prices You Can Live With.

KODAK FILM
12 EXPOSURES
ONLY--COLOR PRINT
126-12
110-12
$1.13

Non Alkaline Formula
Style CONDITIONING CREME RINSE
No more snarls or tangles

ONLY 67¢

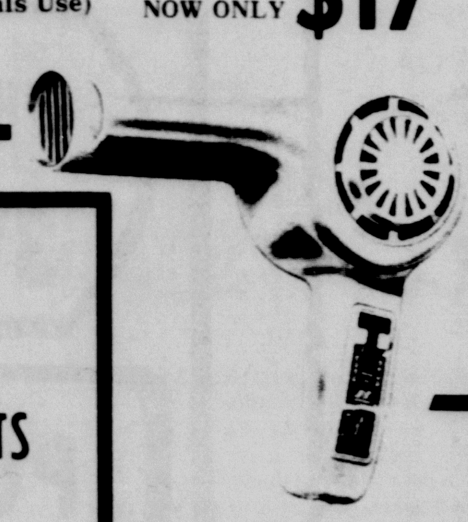
Naturally Blonde By Clairol
THE COMPLETE BLONDING SYSTEM LIGHTENER & TONER
NOW $1.37

MISS BRECK HAIR SPRAY
87¢
11-oz.

KODAK INSTAMATIC
X15 CAMERA OUTFIT COMPLETE WITH FILM

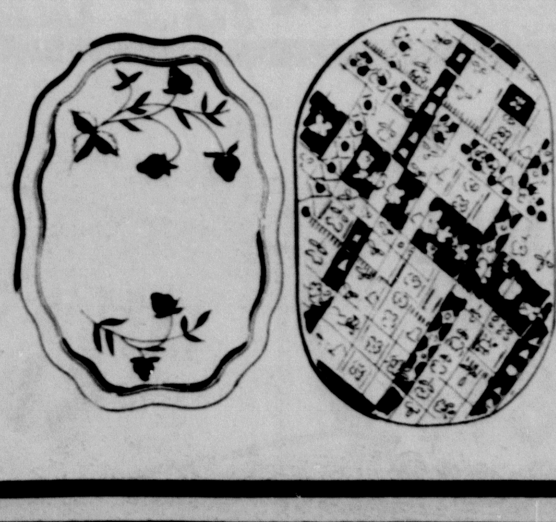
NOW ONLY $16

GIBSONS PHARMACY
Coupon
MYCITRACIN
1/2-oz.
99¢
WITH COUPON

CONAIR VAGABOND 1000 HAIR DRYER/STYLER MOD#063
(The Same as the Professionals Use)
NOW ONLY $17


Desitan Skin Care Lotion
6-oz.
NOW 67¢

METAMUCIL
14-oz.
$2.79
SAVE

ONE LARGE GROUP OF DECORATOR PLACE MATS
REG. 77¢
NOW ONLY 57¢


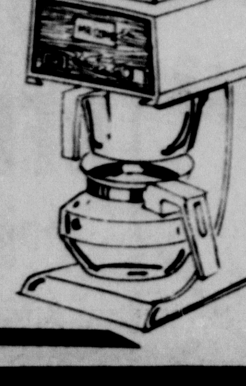
MYLANTA
12-oz.
SAVE
$1.29

PEPSODENT TOOTH PASTE
FAMILY SIZE
NOW ONLY 69¢

NORTHERN
LIGHT N LOOK LOVELY MAKE UP MIRROR MOD. #1600
SPECIAL PRICE
$11.97

BUGS BUNNY VITAMINS
100's
$2.69
SAVE

Non Alkaline pH 5.5
Style SHAMPOO
ONLY 67¢

Mr. Coffee Mod #MC-1AC
THE ORIGINAL COFFEE BREWING SYSTEM

$27.99
NOW ONLY

We give Senior Citizen Discount--Let Us Fill Your Next Prescription.

IT PAYS TO ADVERTISE... ADVERTISE WHERE IT PAYS... WANT ADS!

WHO'S WHO for Aluminum Replacement Windows

WE FINANCE OUR OWN JOBS!

FAST SERVICE-CALL COLLECT 1-817-699-6616

FREE 5lb. CANNED HAM WITH EACH ESTIMATE

I would like a free estimate:

- ☐ Roofing ☐ Insulation
- ☐ Siding ☐ Remodeling
- ☐ Screens ☐ Storm Windows
- ☐ Awnings ☐ Rain Gutters
- ☐ Patio ☐ ______

NAME ______

ADDRESS ______

CITY ______ STATE ______

MAIL TO ACE CONSTRUCTION COMPANY 1303 FM 440 Killeen, Texas 76541

Livestock

FOR SALE: Reg. polled hereford bulls 18-24 mon. old. Also Callie Giant Bermuda grass 50% off. Poe & Sons, Thorndale 898-2478. 39-tfc

FOR SALE: Santa Gertrudis bull 2 1/2 years old grandson of El Capitan. Call after 6 p.m. 697-6229. 44-tfc

FOR SALE: Good cross heifers (the keeping kind) Wilson Circle W Ranch, Rt. 2, Curry Community. 47-3tp

SCHOOL'S OPEN

AAA

DRIVE CAREFULLY

If you are interested in one of the following:

Building a new home
Installing new carpet
Renting an office
Renting storage space
Answering service
Bookkeeping

Call Joe Tomerlin, (817) 697-3465, Milam Building Center, 2001 West 24, Cameron, Texas.

Services

JOHNSON'S Service Entpr. Old Temple Hwy. Appliance sales and service anytime day or night. Call 697-2931. 104-tfc

CARPENTRY. Roofing, painting, or just remodeling inside or out. call 697-3433 for estimates. Large of small jobs welcome. 48-4tc

CONCRETE WORK Wanted: Let me do your patios, sidewalks, and so forth. No job too large or small. Call David Fritz, 697-2949. 31-tfc

WILL SHRED your lots or acreage. Call 697-3751. 9-tfc

KIRBY Sales and Service. Call Charlotte Rogers, 697-2362 46-tfc

CUSTOM HAY cutting, baling, and hauling. Regular bales or round bales. Tate Brothers, 697-3758 or 697-3115. 25-tfc

"I am still learning."
Motto of Michelangelo

GREEN Funeral Home

CAMERON, TEXAS 76520

697-6611

Service Since 1907

Notice

THE MAN who called 697-6907 for a German Shepard please call again. 48-2tc

SCHOOL BUSES FOR SALE

Cameron Independent School District is advertising for bids on two 60 passenger school buses. Bids will be accepted until September 13, 1976, when they will be opened at regular board meeting. The buses may be examined at the Cameron School bus complex. Contact Superintendent Buddy Dulin at 817-697-3512 or Bus Supervisor Emil Kamenicky at 817-697-3593 for further information. The Superintendent's office is at 504 E. 10 St., in Cameron, Texas. In making bids, please indicate the bus you are bidding on. The board reserves the right to reject any or all bids. 46-8/16-26tc

At 60 I had arthritis so bad I had to have help to dress. At 89 I don't have arthritis. Would you want to know why? Send self-addressed stamped envelope to J. J. Womack, Rt. 1, Cooksville, TX 75558. Phone 572-4228. 44-itp

The richest language in the world is English with over 490,000 words!

Real Estate

FOR SALE: Two-story house 709 N. Central, corner lot. Appointment only. 697-2173. 48-8tc

BRICK home with double garage and 35 acres of land, well, and stock tank, 12 miles out of Cameron in Belmena community. Call 697-2780. 47-8tc

FOR SALE: 51 acres five miles east of Ben Arnold. Black top road, all coastal, barns, rural water, good dove hunting, 697-3812. 47-6tc

FOR SALE: 4-year old 2-bedroom brick home on 2 large lots surrounded by chain link fence; has large 24' x 30' garage and utility room in Gause. 713-279-3877, if no answer call 713-279-2094. 47-2tc

HOME FOR SALE: in Green Addition, corner lot, near school. 697-3402. 47-tfc

FOR SALE: 112 acres 2 miles west of Cameron, Call 697-2604. 44-tfc

FOR SALE: 24 acres with 2 bedroom home. 3 1/2 miles southwest of Buckholts with stock tank and plenty of water. Priced to sell. Call N. C. Kuzel. 817-593-2366. 37-8tp

2 BEDROOM HOUSE for sale. Central heat, pecan trees, shaded lot, 1206 N. Houston, 697-6200. 42-8tc

HOUSE FOR SALE: 3 bedroom, 1 1/2 bath, 2 lots with pecan trees, fenced yard on N. Davis. Call 697-2425 after 5. 42-tfc

Plant Bluebonnet Seeds Now For Spring Bloom

If you're planning a cover of Texas bluebonnets for the home landscape next spring, seed should be planted as soon as possible.

"Seeds must be sown by late August if blossoms are wanted next spring," emphasizes Everett Janne, landscape horticulturist for the Texas Agricultural Extension Service.

"Late summer planting is essential as bluebonnets are actually winter annuals," explains the Texas A&M University System specialist. They germinate in late summer, exist as a small rosette of leaves throughout the winter while developing a good root system, and then grow rapidly during the spring rainy season to produce acres of blue flowers."

Many seeds are wasted each year due to improper planting, notes Janne. Just tossing the seed into a grassy area along the road or in the corner of the yard does little else than provide expensive food for birds.

Germination is also a problem. Poor germination usually occurs unless something is done to soften the hard seed coat to allow moisture to penetrate.

"The oft recommended practice of puncturing the seed with a needle or ice pick will work but is rather time consuming as well as hard on the hands. Scratching the seed coat between two layers of sandpaper that have been glued to boards will also help," says Janne.

To treat large quantities of seed, the horticulturist suggests mixing them with sand and tumbling them in a cement mixer to scratch the seed coat. Or, they may be soaked in warm water (about 130 to 150 degrees F.) for a few days, changing the water at least daily until the seed feel soft.

After treating, broadcast the seed on tilled soil, cover with 1/4 to 1/2-inch of soil, firm the soil, and water. Keep the soil moist until seedlings appear--usually in a week to 10 days.

"Once established, bluebonnets seed themselves year after year provided the seed has been allowed to mature, grass or weeds haven't become too thick, and there has been sufficient rain in July and August to soften the seed coat. With late summer drought, it would be avisable to soak the bluebonnet bed several times to assure good germination," points out Janne.

SERVICEMEN-

EUGENE RICHARDS

Airman Eugene D. Richards, whose parents are Mr. and Mrs. Joel E. Richards of Rogers, has graduated at Lackland AFB, an Antonio, from Air Force basic training.

The airman, who studied the Air Force mission, organization, and customs and received special instruction in human relations, is remaining at Lackland for specialized training in the security police field.

Airman Richards attended the Rogers High School.

GIBSON'S DISCOUNT CENTER

HURRY! LIMITED SUPPLY
'76 K3D-B13 203-75 MODEL (870 Field—Plain Barrel)
Remington REMINGTON "870" WING-MASTER PUMP SHOTGUN 12 or 20 GAUGE NOW ONLY $133.33

COLEMAN SLEEPING BAG 33" x 75" #8122-704 NOW ONLY $13.99

WILSON T-2000 ALL METAL TOP OF THE LINE WITH FAMOUS WILSON QUALITY 29.97

FEDERAL FIELD LOAD SHOTGUN SHELLS SALE

	Reg.	Sale
12GA 6 & 8 Shot	3.97	3.29
16GA 7 1/2 Shot	3.69	3.13
20GA 8 Shot	3.69	3.13

RAY-O-VAC SPORTSMAN LANTERN WITH BATTERY NOW ONLY 3.99

GARCIA "170" ABUMATIC REEL REG. $19.97 NOW $16.67

SCHOOL TOTE BAGS BY CARRY CASE #232, #268 #231 REG. $3.99 YOUR CHOICE ONLY $2.89

RAINWAVE #61 OSCILLATING SPRINKLER REG. $4.27 NOW ONLY 3.33

STP GAS TREATMENT 12-oz. CANS NOW ONLY 79¢

SKINNERS RAISIN BRAN CEREAL 15-oz. NOW 61¢

MINI & MAXI GALLERY FRAMES SPECIAL RED TAG 50% OFF REG. PRICE

TUCKER PLASTIC 50 GAL. TRASH CONTAINER WITH LID REG. $5.99 ONLY $4.79

BUDWEISER BEER SIX PACK CANS $1.37

KELLOGS CORN FLAKES 18-oz. ONLY 61¢

HEINZ JUG OF CATSUP RETAIL VALUE $1.05 GIBSON'S 79¢

TROPICANA PURE ORANGE JUICE RETAIL VALUE $1.07 NOW 79¢

COUPON CHEER FAMILY SIZE LAUNDRY DETERGENT ONLY $3.99 10-lb. 11-oz. WITH COUPON

Happening about town

Patti Mikulec, Area Editor

ENGAGED--Mr. and Mrs. Art T. Gilmer of Fort Worth announce the engagement of their daughter, Karen Marie, to Prentis B. McGoldrick Jr., son of Mr. and Mrs. Prentis B. McGoldrick Sr. of Cameron. Karen graduated from Abilene High School and attended Texas Tech University. She is presently a senior at Texas A&M University. Prentis graduated from Yoe High School in Cameron and attended Texas A&M University where he graduated with a B.S. degree in Elementary Education. He is currently employed by City National Bank in Bryan and as a youth and music director at the First Baptist Church in Bremond. A December 4 wedding at the First Baptist Church in College Station is planned.

TO WED--Mr. and Mrs. Charles Riola of Cameron announce the engagement of their daughter, Ruth, to John Tomascik, son of Mr. and Mrs. Johnnie H. Tomascik of Buckholts. An October 2 wedding is planned at St. Monica's Catholic Church.

Cameron Travelers Return

Four Cameronites have recently returned from a seven-day trip to London, England as guests of Life Savers, Inc.

They include Mr. and Mrs. Drayton McLane, Ms. Kate Dimmit, and Ms. Mary Frances Peeler.

The confectionery company, in celebration of the Bicentennial Year, sponsored a special program for its wholesalers and retailers. For each order received on a special promotion, an entry was submitted in a drawing for 76 trips for two to London.

From each of the Life Savers' four sales regions, 19 winners were selected from thousands of entries by an independent judging house. Four times 19 gave 76 winners, and the promotion was thus called the "19-76 London Sweepstakes."

Highlights of the trip included seeing the changing of the guard at Buckingham Palace, visit to Windsor Castle, Stonehenge, Bath and Salisbury, Stratford-on-Avon, as well as museums, art galleries, and fine restaurants.

Births

To Mr. and Mrs. Lynn Heugatter of Temple, a girl, Alana Marie, 6 pounds 11 ounces, born Thursday, August 12 at King's Daughters Hospital in Temple. Grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. W. G. Marek of Burlington and Mrs. Jo Heugatter of Rosebud. Great grandmothers are Mrs. Aleta Marek of Burlington and Mrs. Helen Heugatter of Rosebud. She is welcomed by a sister, Allison Lynn, 3.

To Mr. and Mrs. Robert E. Fischer, a boy, Patrick Ernest, 8 pounds 1 ounce, born 11:17 a.m. August 7 at King's Daughters Hospital in Temple. Grandparents are Rev. and Mrs. D. D. Simpson and Ret. Col. and Mrs. Walter E. Fischer, all of Rockdale.

UNITED IN MARRIAGE--Miss Diane Elaine Lucko, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Monroe Lucko of Cameron, became the bride of Robert James Hunt, son of Mr. and Mrs. John H. Hunt of Denton, July 24. The bride is a 1976 graudate of Texas Woman's University and is emplyed as a second grade teacher with the North Forest ISD. The groom is a 1974 graduate of Texas A&M Maritime Academy in Galveston. He holds a degree in Marine Engineering, is an officer in the United States Naval Reserve, and is a licensed engineering officer aboard vessels of the United States Merchant Marines. The couple now reside in Humble.

Shower Honors Bride-Elect

Miss Rebecca Riola, bride-elect of Carl Tomascik, was honored with a miscellaneous shower at the home of Karen Richardson Saturday, August 14.

Hostesses for the shower were Mary Ann Anderle, Rosemary Ehler, and Karen Rchardson.

Decorations were in the bride's chosen colors of pink and blue. A miniature bride and groom was centered on the serving table and appointments were of crystal and gold.

Special guests were Mrs. Charles Riola, mother of the bride-elect, and Mrs. Frankie Tomascik, mother of the prospective groom.

EXHIBIT SPIRIT CAKE--The Cameron Yoe High School cheerleaders and twirlers exhibit the cake they baked and decorated to present to the Yoemen football players.

Happy Anniversary

August 23
Mr. & Mrs. Blane Laywell

August 24
Mr. & Mrs. Wayne Fleming, Rev. & Mrs. Vernon Dietrich

August 27
Monroe & Helen Fuchs, Mr. & Mrs. Albert Whiteside

Roast the seeds of squash and pumpkin for an enjoyable nibble.

Sale Items To Benefit Hemophilia

Max Shuemate, chairman of the Hemophilia drive for Cameron, has Cameron Yoemen T-shirts for sale. They are white, trimmed in maroon with "Cameron Fighting Yoemen" and a Yoemen emblem in gray on the front.

The shirt sizes available are medium (10-12) and large (14-16) only in children's sizes. Price of each shirt is $3.98, a portion of which will go to the drive.

Shuemate also has available for the drive pencils with "Cameron Yoemen" written on them. These pencils sell for 8 cents each or two for 15 cents.

If you are interested in either of these contact Shuemate at 697-3156 or the items can be bought at Ada Henderson School.

Personal Mention

Rev. and Mrs. Hilton Griswold of Shenandoah, Iowa, have been visiting his mother, Mrs. R. A. Griswold.

Dark stains on aluminum pans can be avoided if you add vinegar to the water before boiling eggs.

Happy Birthday

August 23
Vondee Chandler, Kay Glaser, Jean Tumlinson, Brenda Gaines, Ronald Rider, Stephanie Todd

August 24
Donny Mikulec, Ronnie Mikulec, Wesley Warrick, Ann Hensarling, James Hudson, Jean Lemon, Janene Meyer

August 25
Mrs. Bruce Crook, D. A. Crouch, Dorothy R. Dietrich, Rebel Jones, Frederick Lewis, Jay Tumlinson

August 26
Cecilia Anderle, Tommy Shelander, Con Sutter, Elbert Tindle Jr., Mrs. Irene Tindle, Franci Walzel, Matt Zarosky Jr.

August 27
Mrs. Barry Whiteside

August 29
Laura Delony

League To Meet

The Sunshine Bowling League will have a meeting, Monday, August 23 at 7:30 at the bowling lanes. All members are urged to attend.

AMERICA CELEBRATES
KEITH'S MINIMAX
WE SALUTE USA 1776-1976
Reserve Right To Limit
Specials Good
August 23-24-25
MON.-SAT. 8 A.M. - 9 P.M.
SUN. 8 A.M. - 7:30 P.M.
If anyone can help you save on your food bill... We Can
WE ACCEPT USDA FOOD STAMPS

MINIMAX QUALITY MEATS!
PICNICS NEUHOFF SMOKED LB. 59¢ WATER ADDED
OSCAR MAYER WEINERS REG. OR 8 PAK ALL MEAT FRANKS REG. OR 8 PAK ALL BEEF YOUR CHOICE 1 LB. 89¢
SMOKED SAUSAGE LB. $1.59
Sliced Picnics Extra Lean Smoked (Water Added) Lb. 79¢
Ribeye Steaks Heavy Northern Boneless Beef Lb. $2.79
Pork Loin Armour Veribest Quarter (9-11 Chops) Lb. $1.39
Pork Chops Armour Veribest Center Cut Rib Lb. $1.89
Lunch Meat Good Value Sk. Reg. or Beef Bologna, Luncheon or Salami 12-Oz. Pkg. 99¢
Thighs FRESH LB. 89¢
Chuck Steak Heavy Northern Boneless Beef Lb. 99¢
Calf Liver Young Tender Sliced Lb. 59¢
Pot Roast Heavy Northern Boneless Beef Lb. 89¢
Sliced Bacon Good Value 12-Oz. Pkg. $1.23

FRESH SWEET YELLOW CORN 6 EARS 99¢
MARGARINE GOOD VALUE QUARTERS 3 1-Lb. PKGS 89¢
TV CHEESE HALF MOON CHEDDAR OR COLBY 10-OZ. PKG. 89¢
TV PIZZA Frozen Cheese, Sausage, Hamburger or Pepperoni 13½-Oz. Box 69¢

YOUR KIND OF PRICE! FOR BAKING OR FRYING GOOD VALUE SHORTENING LIMIT 1 WITH $7.50 PURCH OR MORE EXCL. CIGS. 3 LB. CAN 99¢
FROZEN FAVORITE! DELTA ASSORTED PAPER TOWELS 3 BIG ROLLS $1
YOUR KIND OF PRICE! GREENBEANS Stokely Cut or French 16-Oz. BLACKEYES First Pick Fresh Shelled Peas 14½-Oz. SPINACH First Pick 15-Oz. PINTO BEANS Good Value 15-Oz. 4 CANS $1 YOUR CHOICE

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A TEXAS INSTITUTION SINCE 1860

108 East First
Cameron, Texas

Frank M. Luecke
Editor & Publisher

Bess Jeter, News Editor
Clydell Seaton, Business Manager
Ed Allison, Ad Director

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Herald Bicentennial Section

Milam Bicentennial Reading...

We present a Milam-County-oriented Bicentennial salute in a special section of this edition.

It is not as large, but at least as interesting as a centennial edition published on The Herald's 100th birthday in 1960.

Our thanks to people who contributed pictures, source material, much of which sees newspaper print for the first time.

Our thanks to Bicentennial advertisers who make this space possible.

Milam area in its Spanish impacted history around the extinct San Gabriel missions predates the American Revolution, the reason the Bicentennial is celebrated.

These are dates in the 1740s. The first settlers to face Indians in what became Milam Land Institute, perhaps 30 counties other than Milam came here in 1830s. Earlier pioneers likely crisscrossed the area sometime after the War of 1812.

It is an important era though less is known about Texas above San Antonio and Valley areas at that time than any time since then.

We invite your readership and hope you find the section worthwhile. It is of some historic value.

Happy Milam Bicentennial reading.

Cameron, Texas, SEP 20 1897 189

Mr W. C. Powell

Bought of Sprinkel, Cochran & Company,

Dealers in Dry Goods, Clothing, Groceries, Cigars, Tobacco and Confectioneries

Feby	20	To V. order Negro	2 40
June	21	Will Bassett 75 Neg 50	1 25
		Mj Bbs	50
		Bal on Wagon Sheet	1 00
July	24	2# Meal 50 Sugar 100	1 50
	29	2 yd Cot Chex 100 Coffee 125	2 25
		Thread 25 Needles 5 Duck 100	1 30
		Dipper 20 Wash Board 20	40
Aug	10	4 yd Cot Chex 240 Pr Duck Pants 150	3 90
		Rope 15 Flour 110 Pulley 25	1 50
		Harcod 25 Jins 5	30
	14	60# Bacon 420 Turnip Seed 10	4 30
Oct	9	32# Bacon 225 (1c) Coffee 1.00	$20 60
			3 25
			23 85

No. 483 STATE AND COUNTY TAX RECEIPT.

Received, Cameron Texas 1876, of W. C. Powell two 39 Dollars, in payment of Taxes for the year 1876, on personal property and the following described real estate:

State Advalorem Tax on property in County	$ 6
County Advalorem Tax on property in County	80
State Advalorem Tax on property in other Counties	
County Advalorem Tax on property in other Counties	
State Poll Tax	1 00
County Poll Tax	
Total	$2 39

Abst. No.	Acres.	Original Grantee.	County where situated.	Lots.	Blocks.	Out Lots.	VALUE OF PROPERTY.

Total value of property in county $118 00
Total value of property in other co's $

Nov 4 1876 [illegible] Livingston Collector.

THE STATE OF TEXAS, County of Milam.

I, J. NABOURS, Clerk of the District Court of Milam county, do hereby certify that W. C. Powell has his Mark and Brand duly recorded under letter P book of Records of Marks and Brands, which mark is Over half crop in the Right ear and under bit in the left

Brand I. N on Cattle on left hip

On Horses on left Shoulder

Witness, my hand and seal this 5th day of October A. D., 1875

J. Nabours
Clerk D. C. M. Co.
By W. C. Nabours Deputy.

What Others Say...

Fuel Allocation No Answer

Environmentalists continue to ignore the consequences of fuel shortages in the populous Northeast. They have won initial success in obtaining a federal court ruling to ban offshore leasing for oil and gas production in the Atlantic Ocean.

Their claim is that such production would cause environmental damage to New York and New Jersey beaches.

An appeals court has removed the leasing ban, but only until it can consider the environmental question. The environmentalists say they will take the matter to the Supreme Court if necessary.

Meanwhile, the Oil and Gas Journal forecasts a natural gas shortage of up to 40 percent for some states, including New York and New Jersey, this winter if the season is normally cold. A severe winter could cause even higher fuel shortages.

The area has been favored with unusually mild weather the last three winters. Possibly it will be so blessed again. But the odds are against such good fortune.

If shortages of natural gas occur, pressures will rise for national allocation of the fuel. That would mean Texas and other producing states would have to share their own short fuel supplies with areas that have failed to develop their own.

But allocation of dwindling resources would be a stopgap measure at best. It's time the people of the Northeast demanded offshore oil and gas production in the Atlantic instead of continually leaning on the depleting supplies of fuel from other parts of the country.

Dallas Morning News

"Low Down" FROM THE Congressional Record

By JOE CRUMP

WANTS CONGRESSMEN AUDITED EVERY YEAR

Rep. Jack F. Kemp (NY) ". . .Today I am introducing legislation which would require an automatic Internal Revenue Service audit of the tax returns of every Member of Congress every year.

"In my judgement, this simple requirement would be a very significant step in helping allay the public mistrust and cynicism which has been increasingly focused upon Members of Congress.

"My legislation would not violate privacy by requiring public disclosure of any Members tax return. It would, however, require that the Internal Revenue Service review the tax return under its standard audit procedure, and if the IRS review uncovered discrepancies, the Member of Congress would be required--like any other taxpayer--to make the appropriate adjustments.

"It is well known that no more than 9 percent of the American people have a great deal of confidence in the Congress. The percentages have not always been this way--and the percentages do not have to remain this way.

"There are currently pending before this Congress many proposals which would increase the accountability of the individual and collective Members of Congress for the use of funds necessary for carrying out congresssional responsibilities--funds for office expenses, travel expenses, and the like. I am sponsor or cosponsor of many of these proposals, and I believe if enacted these proposals will help to raise public confidence in the way Congre keeps house. . .

"My bill to require an automatic IRS audit of Members tax returns calls upon the independent assessment--beyond the reach of Congress--of an agency not associated with the legislative branch. I believe that most Americans would be reassured to know that the tax returns of their elected representatives in the Congress are subject to yearly review. . .

"I am pleased to join with my colleague Bill Armstrong (Colo.) in recommending that the General Accounting Office--an nonpartisan professional organization--review procedures of the House of Representatives related to funding for such purposes as Members' staff allowances, travel, and various operating allowances of House committees. . ."

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CRUMP'S GRASS ROOTS COMMENT

An audit of every Congressmen's tax returns every year would reduce, somewhat, the need for investigative reporting by the news media. IRS would "have a ball."

Old Receipts, Papers Date Back To 1800s

These old papers came from Mrs. J. C. Cauthen of Cameron, showing transactions and receipts from the 1800s. William Crawford Powell, named in the papers, was born in 1847 in Bibb County, Ala. He came to Texas in 1873 when he married Keburah Frances (Fannie) Redden who was born in 1853 in Chactow County, Ala. They married in May of 1873. He died in 1913 and she died in 1938.

Cameron, Texas, Sept 23 1896

Sprinkel, Cochran & Company,
Bought of W C Powell
3 Bales of Cotton.

MARKS.	WEIGHT.	PRICE.	TOTAL.
486	539	7 22½	38 92
489	597	"	43 10
485	589	"	42 51
			$124 53

Amount to Account..........
Amount to Merchandise..........
Amount in Cash..........

Milam One Of 23 Original Texas Counties

Milam County is one of 23 original counties in Texas and is traversed by the three rivers which attracted early settlers to this area. . . the Little River, the San Gabriel and the Brazos.

Indians probably kept settlers from arriving in this area of Texas earlier, since there was abundant timber, water, fertile soil and favorable climactic conditions.

According to Miss Mary Belle Batte's history of early Milam County, early reports of Spanish travelers in the county dated as early as May 31, 1716, when a captain reported crossing Little River just above where it flows into the Brazos. Other crossings were reported in 1720 and 1732.

Earliest history records the founding of three missions in the San Gabriel area, which were abandoned around 1755.

Miss Batte states that records from 1755 to 1800 in the history seem a blank. No records are to be found, but the land was probably occupied by Indians, while others traveled through the territory.

After Mexico won its independence from Spain in 1821, the Texas Association sent Robert Leftwich to Mexico to obtain a grant of land in Texas and three years later was permitted to settle 800 families in Texas above the San Antonio road, a grant including all of present Milam County.

A history written for the Centennial of Cameron in 1946 and published in The Herald, told this story:

"In the meantime a few colonists had settled along the Brazos River in the lower reaches of the county and by 1832 a military post was established and a half dozen Anglo - American families and an equal number of Mexicans were said to be living here. In the summer of 1834, immigrants from Tennessee, Kentucky, Mississippi and Louisiana came to the colony and two towns were laid out that year.

"Nashville, named for the city in Tennessee, was founded on the west side of the Brazos, two miles below the mouth of Little River, near the present community of Gause.

"Here for some time, Sterling C. Robertson maintained a land office, and it served as a resting place for settlers entering the region, Here they secured supplies before moving on to their grants, and during periodic Indian raids, they returned to the block house, which was protected by a cannon sent by the ladies of Nashville, Tenn.

"The second village was at the falls of the Brazos, about 30 miles from Nashville, a few miles from which is present Marlin. This town became the capitol of Robertson's colony following the opening of the land office where William H. Steele was land commissioner and Moses Cummings measured off the land. The settlers of Robertson's colony were to fall before the advance of Santa Anna's Mexican Army.

"The settlers in the upper portions of Milam County wore out their wagons fleeing to Nashville for protection from Indians. Some protection was offered by a company of Rangers stationed at the falls of the Brazos at a block house called Fort Milam. The burden of protection fell upon the settlers themselves and almost every community had its own blockhouse.

"Besides those at Nashville and Fort Milam, A. W. Sullivan built one on the Brazos above Nashville in 1830. This we know as Port Sullivan. In 1842 Benjamin Bryant built a stockade at a point on Little River, about six miles west of present Buckholts, which is known as Bryant Station."

According to Miss Batte's history, the whole grant at this time was referred to by some as Viesca and others as Nashville Colony, These names were applied until the first year of the Republic, after which it bore the name of Milam, one of the heroes of the Texas Revolution. In 1835 the colony known as Robertson was renamed Milam County."

Not many families were settlers in the colony before 1834, Miss Batte records. One early settler was a man named Thompson in early 1831, who settled in Nashville.

VINTAGE TOURING CAR can be seen in this view of an early day street scene in Buckholts. Courtesy Buckholts State Bank.

Liberal Institute Was First School

The first prepatory school in Milam County seemingly was the Milam Liberal Institute in Cameron, according to Mrs. Lelia M. Batte's "History of Milam County." This was incorporated by the legislature in an act approved by Gov. George T. Wood on March 29, 1848.

In 1850 the Institute had one teacher and 41 students and received $400 from taxation. In 1860 it had three teachers and 90 pupils and received $728 from taxation.

In addition to the Milam Liberal Institute there were two other private schools inthe county at a fairly early date. The first of these was the Port Sullivan Male and Female College chartered in 1863, although founded some years previously with the encouragement of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South.

Whether the college ever granted any degress is not ascertainable, for its appears primarily to have been an academy. It had a wide influence in the community. The college is said to have survived until 1877.

The other school was the Davilla Institute, a Baptist institution, that was chartered in 1873. This institution was authorized to hold up to $100,000 of property and to grand degrees in arts and sciences, but it is doubtful that it ever did, for it too appears to have been an academy. This school had been founded by the Leon River and the Little River Baptist associations. The turnover of its principals was substantial, with three principals serving during the school's lifetime, which was three years.

The 1850 census showed seven schools with a total of seven teachers and 138 pupils. The schools were maintained during 1850 by taxation amounting to $1,067 according to the census. In 1860 there were eleven common schools with eleven teachers and 496 pupils. About $12,500 was contributed from public funds toward the support of the schools.

During the latter part of Reconstruction, the public school system virtually collapsed. In Milam County, during the period Sept. 1, 1873-Aug. 31, 1876, many school districts either paid nothing due on the teachers salaries, or only a portion of them.

In 1885, when the legislature instituted the district system, Milam County was exempted from its provisions, it continued to operate under the community system, with a schoolhouse in each community that would contribute to its support. Eight years later, however, the county was transferred to the district system. The number of common school districts multiplied rapidly, beginning in 1891; in January, 1893, there were 93 common school districts in the county.

Under the terms of its charter, Cameron had a school system embraced by the corporate limits of the city. The city council appointed trustees. In June 1893, the Cameron Negro school was located on the extreme limits of the corporation. It was near the city dump and had no well. At a mass meeting, Negro citizens unanimously favored removal and contributed $100 to purchase a lot. In the summer of 1896 the city council awarded contracts for building a new building for the white school and for an addition to the Negro school.

The first independent school district in the county was tha t of Gause, created in 1905, followed in 1913 by the Thorndale Independent School District.

A number of people have made substantial contributions to education in Milam County, some of them by bequests in their wills. The most substantial of these was that of Caroline Yoe, widow of Charles H. Yoe. In her will Mrs. Yoe said that Yoe and she had decided to show their affection for Cameron by building a public high school. The school was constructed during her lifetime.

With the passage of time the public school system has undergone changes. The decline in population of Milam County has affected the school system. In the school year 1934-35, for example, the scholastic population of the county was 10,644. Fifteen years later, in 1949-50, it had dropped by almost half to 5,643. This drop made imperative the abolition of a great number of the smaller school districts.

MARLOW SCHOOL in the early 1930s. Courtesy Phoebe Macek.

STUDENTS at the early day Cameron institute, or academy, which was located where the Little League ball field is today. Courtesy Lester Turner.

Steamboat Climbs Up Little River

A unique incident around 1850 was the navigation of the Little River by a steamboat, according to Lelia M. Batte's History of Milam County.

"Use of steamboats on the Brazos has been tried at intervals over a period of 20 years but they had never been successful inasmuch as the river shifted uneasily in its wide bed, and in addition, washed down tree trunks filled the bed with snags.

"Nevertheless, the attempt was made from time to time although prohibitive insurance rates generally brought the attempt to an early cessation.

"In the late 1840s a new attempt was made. McCown Sr., a merchant in Cameron, dreamed of the navigation of Little River by small boats during winter freshets , but his dream was usually met with ridicule. During the winter of 1850-51, after a heavy rain when the swollen river gave some promise of remaining up for several days, he rowed down Little River and the Brazos in search of a ship to make the attempt.

"At Washington he obtained the ship 'Washington' owned by Jo. Woods and captained by Basil M. Hatfield, that had been enticed so far up by a liberal bonus. Upon McCown's assurances of a guaranteed amount of freight and another bonus, this of $500, the owner agreed to send the ship up. Laden with provisions, groceries, and whiskey, it started the ascent.

"When Little River was reached the sound of a steam whistle never heard before in these parts, instantly attracted attention, and when it came to be known tha t a real live steamer, fully equpped and fully loaded with merchandise, wa s in the river making its way to Cameron, curiosity quickened into interest and interest grew into excitement, general and prolonged.

During the ascent of Little River, 'knots of sightseers would greet it with a great profusion of shouts and hurrahs, and much waving of wool hats and calico bonnets and aprons.' At each stop, men swam out on horseback and mounted the deck.

"About two and a half east o f Cameron its progress was blocked by shoals, and there the ship was made fast to a tree. For two days and nights, 'a general jubilee of feasting and dancing' took place on the prow of the cleared decks.

"At the end of this time Hatfield turned the prow of his ship downstream and made his way to the Brazos. This passage marked not only the beginning of the navigation of the upper Brazos and the Little River, but the end as well, for no other ship ever attempted the ascent."

WEST TEXAS BOUND in the fall of 1933 to pick cotton. From left, John Hairston, Liburn Anthis, Garner Hairston, and Elwood Kirk. Courtesy Phoebe Macek.

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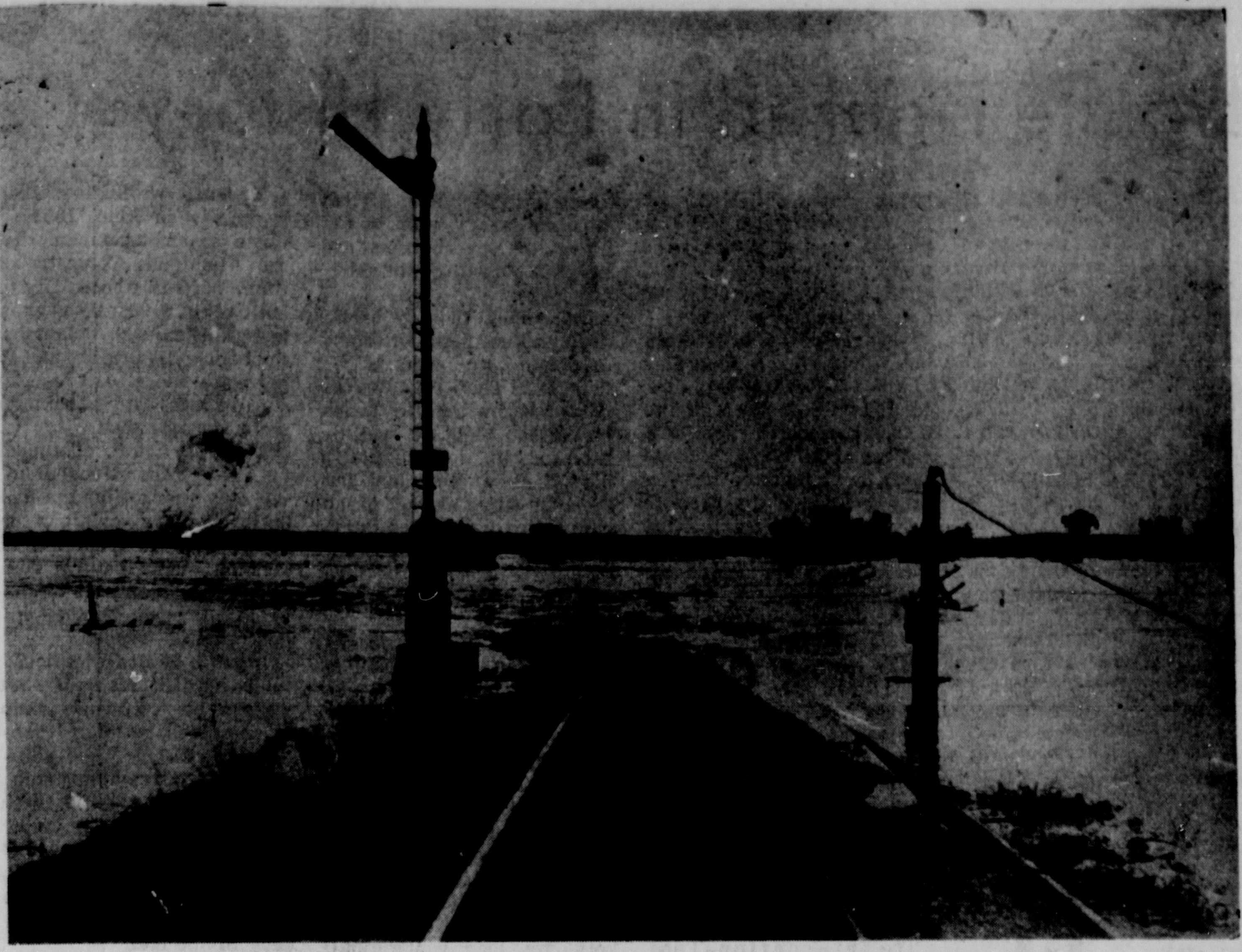


FLOOD OF 1921--The waters of Little River rage past the washed out tracks of the Santa Fe Railroad. This was the scene of the now famous flood of 1921 when water raced out of the banks of Little River, pouring over the bottom land and flooding up to the higher land of the city near the cemetery.

Missions Marked Spanish Rule

By Lucy Mae Matthews

In a two-hour drive from Temple, one can take an excursion into memory and recall 482 years of modern Texas history including that of the early-day outposts of civilization.

When we hear the expression, "Six Flags over Texas," we are thrilled to be reminded of the culture represented by each flag. We hear much of the last three but little of the first three because of their sorrow and terror.

The Daughters of the Republic of Texas maintain the museum at the former French Legation in Austin, and the Cradle of Texas liberty in Galveston. The Colonial Dames, the Daughters and Sons of the American Revolution, the Daughters of the Confederacy, and the Veterans of Foreign Wars work to keep alive the values that made Texas and our country great.

Locating the San Xavier Missions along the San Gabriel River was a sudden thought. The early historians, Bancroft, McCaleb, and Shea had mentioned the location and natural resources of the country, and the river had been named in 1716 by St. Denis, the French trader.

After years of discussion with the viceroy of Mexico, the King of Spain in 1747 formally authorized the establishment of three missions for the Karankawa tribe of Indians by missionaries sent out from the College of Santa Cruz de Queretario, Mexico, headquartered in San Antonio. At that time there were about 260 different tribes of Indians in Mexico, which included Texas.

The first temporary mission, San Francisco Xavier, named in honor of St. Francisco Xavier, the Jesuit missionary to the Indies, was founded in 1748 on Kolb's Hill, across from the present Worley Gin.

The second temporary mission, San Idefonso, was located near the junction of the San Gabriel River and Brushy Creek, on what is now the Morrell Camp farm. It was founded in 1749, as was Mission Nuestra Senora de Candelaria on what is now the Ditch Valley Farm, owned by descendants of the Hamblen family, Irma Kelly of Cameron and Mary Alice Porter of Austin. When I was young my parents were weekenders from Cameron and Rockdale to San Gabriel to visit relatives. The Ditch Valley Farm was pointed out because of a very dark green strip of cotton plants, about 60 feet wide, through an otherwise average field of cotton. This strip was above an old ditch that had been dug through the fertile farm land by brown-robed Franciscon Friars and Indians in 1749.

In 1936, the Texas Centennial Year was observed. Several historians were interested in reviewing the history of Milam County and in removing the remains of heroes to the State Cemetery in Austin. Among the historians were the Tom Hendersons, Lee Battes, Olive Todd Walker, and the Reverend Michalka of Cameron; L. W. Kemp of Houston, and the Reverend Paul J. Folk of St. Edward's University in Austin, and David Buchanan, Temple.

By their influence the Texas Highway Department placed the San Xavier markers along the San Gabriel River to perpetuate the memory of the deeds of the early missionaries.

In 1936 I wrote an article for the San Antonio Express based on the information that I had read in Barker and Bolton's "Texas in the Middle 18th Century" and in the Southwestern Historical Quarterly. (I could find only the beginning of the article.) At the time Dr. Herbert E. Bolton was at the University of California at Berkley. When I asked permission to use his material he replied, "I should like a copy of any articles you publish. When I began my expeditions, on horseback, up and down the San Gabriel River, almost nothing was known about the missions. Locating the old sites are among my most cherished memories. When I was there numerous holes had been dug in search of gold. It is interesting to have a letter from one who knows the location of the Ditch Valley Farm."

Dr. Bolton had translated his information at the Extinguished College of Santa Cruz de Queretaro in Mexico. Along the San Gabriel river he found only slender remains: names of saints. San is Spanish for Saint a partly - covered ditch, flat rocks from a broken dam, different kinds of bullets, an old sword, legend of a hidden treasure, and Spanish words like San Andreas, Little River, De Villa, misspelled Davilla, Sandoval, now Sandow; Pena Grant, Acosta Survey, Brazos de Dios, arms of God, Arroyo de las Benditas Animas, Brushy Creek, where the animals were blessed.

Before this time the College of Santa Cruz de Queretaro had established fifteen missions in Texas by 1731. Originally the Alamo was Mission San Anton'- de Padua; later Mission San Antonio de Valero. At the outset the San Gabriel River country was not chosen. The soil was good, but the barbarian tribe of Lapan Indians from the western hills would swoop down and battle for buffalo meat and hides. Since there was a supposed danger from the French's, coming into Texas from Louisiana to trade, East Texas was preferred over Central Texas.

One of the first missionaries in East Texas was Friar Massanet. Friars are traveling brothers of the Franciscan Jesuit and other orders. Friar Massanet was looking for the French settlement. He became acquainted with the friendly Tejas chief from whose tribe Texas got its name. Friar Massanet resolved to try to Christianize the chief and his people.

Accordingly, in 1690-93 the first Spanish mission in Texas was called San Francisco de los Tejas and was located twenty - five miles northeast of what is now Crockett in the piney woods of the David Crockett National Forest.

The establishment of the San Xavier Missions for the Karankawa Indians was due to the zeal of Friar Mariano. He had entered Texas in 1729 and was a missionary to various tribes for seventeen years. In 1745 he and four chiefs of tribes asked Friar Francisco Xavier Ortiz in San Antonio for the missions and a presidio with soldiers for protection from the various war-like tribes, as the Lapans and Apaches. The college officials tried to persuade the chiefs to settle near what is now San Antonio. They would not consent to leave the buffalo hunting - grounds of Central and North Texas.

Friar Mariano and the chiefs were given permission to settle along the San Gabriel River in 1748, because authority had been granted by the King of Spain in 1747, the year before. They were given missionaries, soldiers, gold, supplies of food, domestic animals, seeds, agricultural implements and many ox-carts that moved them to the San Gabriel River.

From the first, all sorts of pioneer difficulties beset the missionaries: battles with the Apaches over buffalo meat and hides; restless Indians deserted; streams overflowed; a small-pox epidemic killed forty Indians; East Texas tribes led away those who disliked the Apache raids; and murders among the insubordinate soldiers who were dissatisfied away from their families.

Yet, all was not dark. After two years Friar Mariano in 1750 reported to a College inspector that he had spent five thousand dollars; had built a chapel and log houses; there were 480 resident Indians, 266 baptisms; 300 Indians receiving instruction and that potatoes, maize and other grains were plentiful.

Unfortunately, Friar Mariano had an accident and had to return to San Antonio. They sent friars to replace him, but the Apaches attacked the mission three times. The inspectors gave the adverse reports, and the missions were abandoned after four years, on order from the Viceroy in 1752. Some missionaries moved to a site on the San Marcos springs. Troubled there also by the barbarian Indians, some of them moved to San Saba. Those who survived at San Saba moved to San Antonio. You may have read their stories.

The early Spanish and French explorers and missionaries did not entirely fail. They named the streams. St. Denis named the San Gabriel. They found shallow places for fording rivers; marked trails through forests; contrasted the fertility of the soils; learned to interpret the Indian language and something of Indian characteristics; observed good camping grounds and sketched them on crude maps; these camping places became villages and plantations. The 1690 trail to East Texas is now the Spanish King's Highway, Camino Real, Old San Antonio Road from Crockett, Nacogdoches, San Augustine, Bastrop and San Antonio, 600 miles long, to Eagle Pass and Monclova, Mexico.

LETTERS

Dear Frank:

I wanted to congratulate you and the members of the Cameron Herald staff on the way the news has been handled this Bicentennial year. All of you have done a great job, and the Herald continues to be an outstanding newspaper.

Please call or write if our office can be of any service.

Very truly yours,
Dan Kubiak

BEN ARNOLD SCHOOL, 1914-15. Courtesy Lester Turner.

Lignite Figured In Early History

Lignite has been a part of Milam County's economy for a long time, and interest in the mineral has come alive again with the advent within the past year Shell Oil Co. survey, leasing, and plans for mining.

At one time in its heyday, from about 1910 to 1920, from 45 to 50 railroad cars of lignite were shipped out a day, according to Mrs. Lelia M. Batte in her History of Milam County.

As early as 1866 the existence of lignite around what later became Rockdale was known, Mrs. Batte stated.

Lignite's first era of prosperity came before the turn of the century. For a long time it had been known that Milam County contained some of the largest lignite deposits in the United States, and they began to be developed at that time.

The output of mines such as Worley, Vogel and Sandow located around Rockdale made it into one of the best small business towns in all Central Texas.

Several years later, during World War I, according to Mrs. Batte, it was claimed to be the greatest lignite shipping point in the world.

Most of the history of those early day mining ventures is hazy now, and the records have been lost. Some of the concerns were locally organized stock companies and others were from other parts of Texas or from other states with outside capital.

The early mines were of the conventional underground kind shaft or slope mining. Many of the miners were Mexicans who were brought in from Mexico to work in them. And many of the mules and burros that hauled the carts spent their whole working lives underground in darkness without once seeing the light of day.

The International and Great Northern Railroad, now the Missouri Pacific, did a thriving business hauling the lignite to market. Customers not only Texas University at Austin and A&M at College Station burned it as fuel for heating.

Lignite, however, does not make the best of fuels. It has a high ash content, is high in moisture -- being about one-third water -- and consequently is low in heating value.

After World War I, Milam County's lignite mines were losing most of their markets to natural gas as more and more of those fields were brought in Texas in the big post-war drilling boom. Natural gas was not only a better fuel; it was also, in those early days, cheaper. So by the early 1920's the county's lignite companies were facing a serious problem.

An Oklahoman, president of the McAlester Fuel Co., J. G. Puterbaugh, became interested in Milam County's lignite, particularly the huge deposits at Sandow.

Puterbaugh took over mining leases after the failure of the Smith Brothers of Hillsboro's mining venture. The land they had leased went through the hands of a receiver and most of it was acquired by former owners.

What had attracted Puterbaugh to Sandow was the ease by which mining could be done. Unlike other Milam County mines, Sandow was not an underground mine. There the lignite veins were close to the surface. All that was necessary was to remove the overburden and scoop it out with power shovels.

So during the 1920s McAlester Fuel maintained and expanded its markets.

In 1929 The Rockdale Reporter wrote that the Texas Power and Light Co. was interested in constructing a huge lignite power plant. But the 1929 stock market crash came only two months later. It caused TP&L to drop any building plans and the idea was to remain only a dream for another generation.

Post-war changes caused the markets to disappear. Railroads used diesel even for their freight locomotives. Industries had all converted to natural gas.

So in 1950 when McAlester Fuel lost their last big customer, the University of Texas, Sandow was closed down.

Puterbaugh thought that the county would not find markets for long years, until the enormous reserves of natural gas had been consumed, or until the price of natural gas should have increased sufficiently to make it possible to produce and sell lignite on a competitive basis.

He had plenty of reason for that estimate. But few attempts to predict the future of an industry have been so promptly proved to be wrong.

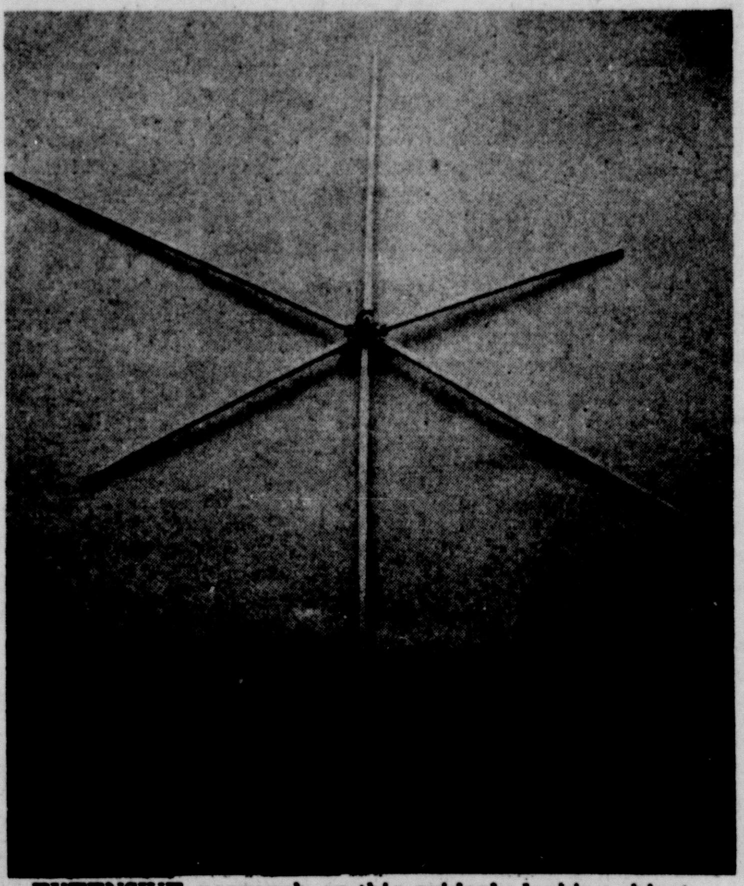
Because within less than a year -- in June, 1951 -- came an announcement that the Aluminum Company of America was planning to build a big $100 million plant near Rockdale -- a plant that would use lignite as fuel to generate the electricity needed for its aluminum smelting opertions.

Milam's lignite continued in use for the Alcoa plant, the only market for the fuel until the energy crisis of the 1970s with its forecasts of running out of natural gas, along with steeply rising gas prices, brought another industry on the scene.

In 1975, Shell Oil of Houston began the leasing of what was to be a 10-mile strip in the area between Rockdale and Milano. The company is undertaking extensive studies, starting with an environmental study by Radian of Austin, before any decision to mine the lignite is made. The company is also investigating possible markets for the fuel.

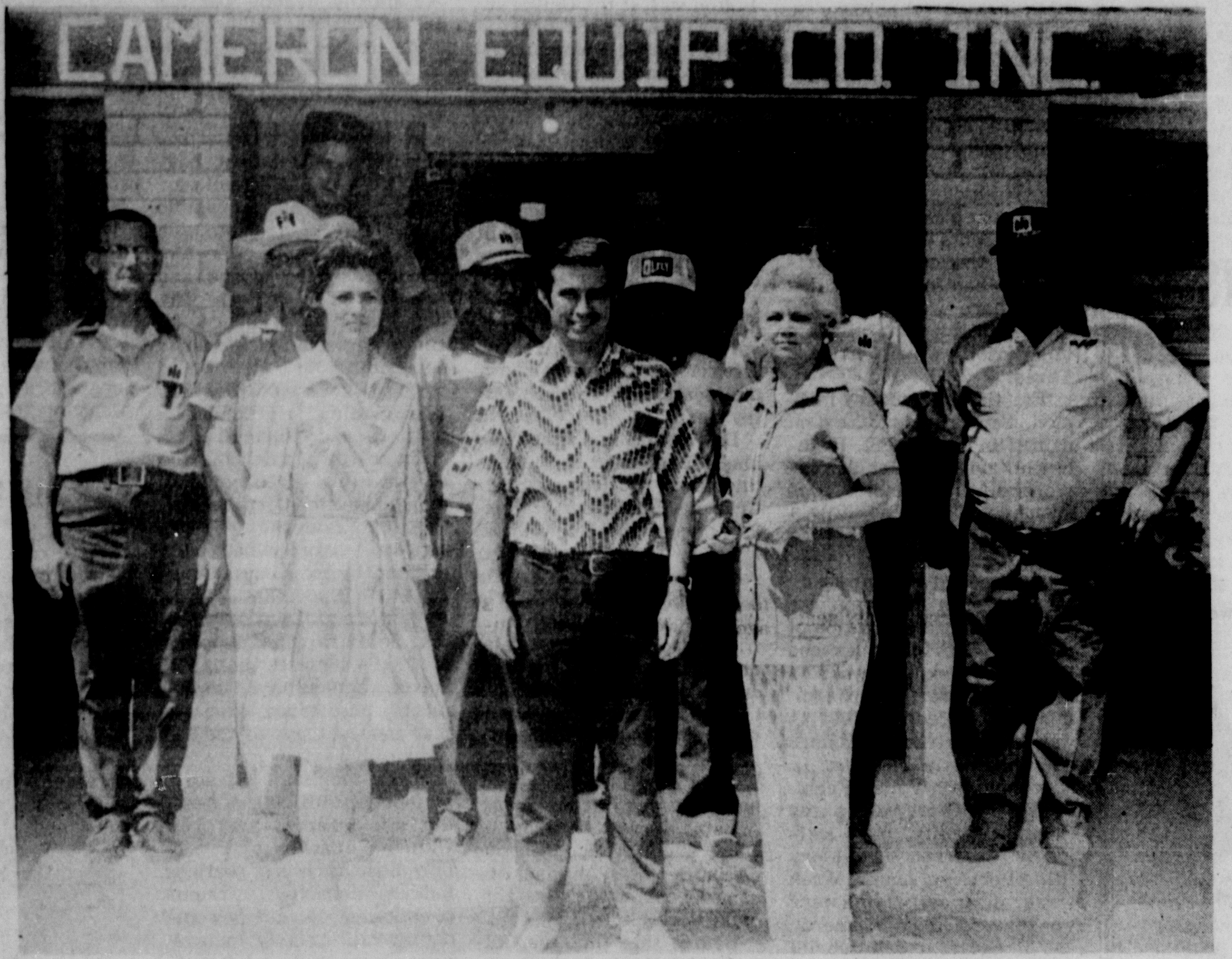
Shell, which would not start mining until around 1981, will also use the strip-mining method and then return the land to its original state.

Modern day use of lignite was aided after about 1951, when a process which crushes and dries the lignite before burning, greatly increased its efficiency and heating value.



EXTENSIVE research on this spiderly looking object has not revealed its exact nomenclature or even an approximate age. It is known to be over 125 years old and was used to hold a mosquito net over a baby crib.

1776 1976



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We appreciate your fine patronage during the last four years and are looking forward to providing, in the coming era, the personal service that you enjoy in your financial affairs.

AMERICAN REVOLUTION BICENTENNIAL 1776-1976

HOGG-CLARK CAMPAIGN of 1892 featured this buggy and team decorated with "TexasGiant" and "Turn Texas Loose." The photo shows the Green building at left and the old First National Bank at right. Courtesy Richard Williams.

History Records 4 Courthouses

Since it was organized as a county, Milam has had four different buildings which have served it as a courthouse. All have been located on the same site.

The first of these, according to a historical sketch written years ago by Kathryn Robbins (Mrs. O. B. Mackensen), was built in 1846.

"Hon. W. W. Oxsheer," she said in her account, "who was the first district clerk and also deputy district surveyor of Milam County, says: 'I remember the town (Cameron) was laid off by A. W. Sullivan, Benjamin Hobson and Daniel Monroe.

" 'The first building erected was a courthouse. If I were an expert draughtsman, I believe I could draw an exact picture of Milam County's first temple of justice, for I retain a very distinct recollection of it. It was a rude structure of small dimensions but abundantly large enough and sufficiently ornate for the plain people who used it.

" 'It was thirty feet east and west by twenty feet north and south, about nine feet high to the eaves, built of upright studding mortised into sills and plates, weatherboarded on the outside, floored with planks cut out by hand with a whip-saw and covered with board ripped and shaved. There was a door on the north side and one on the south side and a window in each end. On the south side two shed rooms about ten feet square were added, which were used as clerks' offices, there being a passageway between leading to the courtroom. Jacob Gross and Wiley Jones took the contract and erected the building.' "

He was wrong, evidently, about it being large enough and sufficiently ornate for the citizens, because after several years -- the records are hazy -- it was replaced by a larger one.

"We know that it was a two-story frame building with a long hall running north and south, with offices located on the first floor," the Robbins historical sketch described it. "The second floor was a large room in which trials were held, but at times it was used as a dance hall by the young people of the community.

CLERK SHOT

"At one of these gatherings," she added, "Mr. Williams, county clerk, was shot. He, with his wife, had attended the ball and just as they were coming down the stairs from the ballroom, he was jerked from his wife's side, it is reported, and shot by Jim Boles."

It wasn't the only time gunfire was to echo in Milam County's courthouse. Years later an encounter in a corridor between Sheriff Robert Todd and Giles Averitt ended with Averitt shot to death. A bullet hole or two can still be seen in a door jamb in an office.

Sometime while this building was in use, an old story claims, a man was hired to dig a well under the building. When he had dug down some distance, however, he encountered a solid layer of rock. He decided to blast through this, and being unfamiliar with dynamite, used a heavy charge.

Legend does not say whether he split the courthouse building about in two.

BURNS TO GROUND

It was repaired however, if the tale is true, and was in use when the next catastrophe happened. On the night of April 9, 1874, it burned to the ground with all of its contents. A rumor at the time said the fire was set by a man hired by someone who was accused of forgery and other crimes and wanted all of the evidence destroyed before he could be brought to trial. The arsonist reportedly rode out of town the next morning with his saddle bags filled with silver dollars as his pay for the crime.

Milam County's third courthouse was not built until two years later, in 1876. In the meantime the county rented quarters in the old Phillips Hotel, located near the site of the present jail.

THIRD BUILDING

This third courthouse building was 50 by 60 feet and was of brick and wood construction. The cost was about $11,250. The county, however, did not have enough funds in the treasury to meet even this cost, and so citizens of Cameron made up the difference with donations. W. B. Streetman, C. R. Smith, J. B. Neher, J. W. Henderson, George Green, W. A. Nabours, John M. Mittchenson, W. W. Oxsheer and N. P. Garrett were among those listed in the historical sketch who made contributions.

For a time after this courthouse was built, it seemed that all of this effort might have been wasted. Because the citizens of Rockdale, which was growing fast, started a movement to have it made the county seat and the courthouse moved there. They finally succeeded in 1881 in having an election called to decide the issue. The result was 1861 votes for Cameron and 1618 for Rockdale. The courthouse remained where it was.

One improvement at this time was the construction of -- to use the words of the sketch -- "a first class iron fence" enclosing the courthouse yard, practically a necessity in those days of free-roaming livestock.

Within a year or two it began to be apparent that another building was needed because the one in use was rapidly developing defects -- walls cracked and out of plumb, a bad roof and settled foundations. By 1889 plans were being pushed to erect another building to replace it.

CITIZENS OPPOSE

But for some time it seemed very doubtful whether they would get anywhere. A good many citizens at first were of the opinion that the courthouse was quite satisfactory. They only changed their minds after a contractor estimated it would cost about $4,700 for repairs. When commissioners found the bond of one of the contractors was insufficient, they announced they were dropping plans to erect the building.

The architects, Lamour and Watson and the contractors, Lee & Plummer, filed suit for damages. The commissioners then had another change of mind. A compromise was worked out, and the contractors agreed to drop their suits and erect the building for $75,000 instead of the original contract price of $82,375.

The building was completed in April, 1892. The commissioners approved it, and Lamour & Watson, after their inspection, reported: "We found the building the best and most thoroughly satisfactory piece of work as a whole as any that we have ever accepted."

IN USE EVER SINCE

The fact that it has been in use ever since that long ago day would seem to vindicate the architects in their praise of its construction.

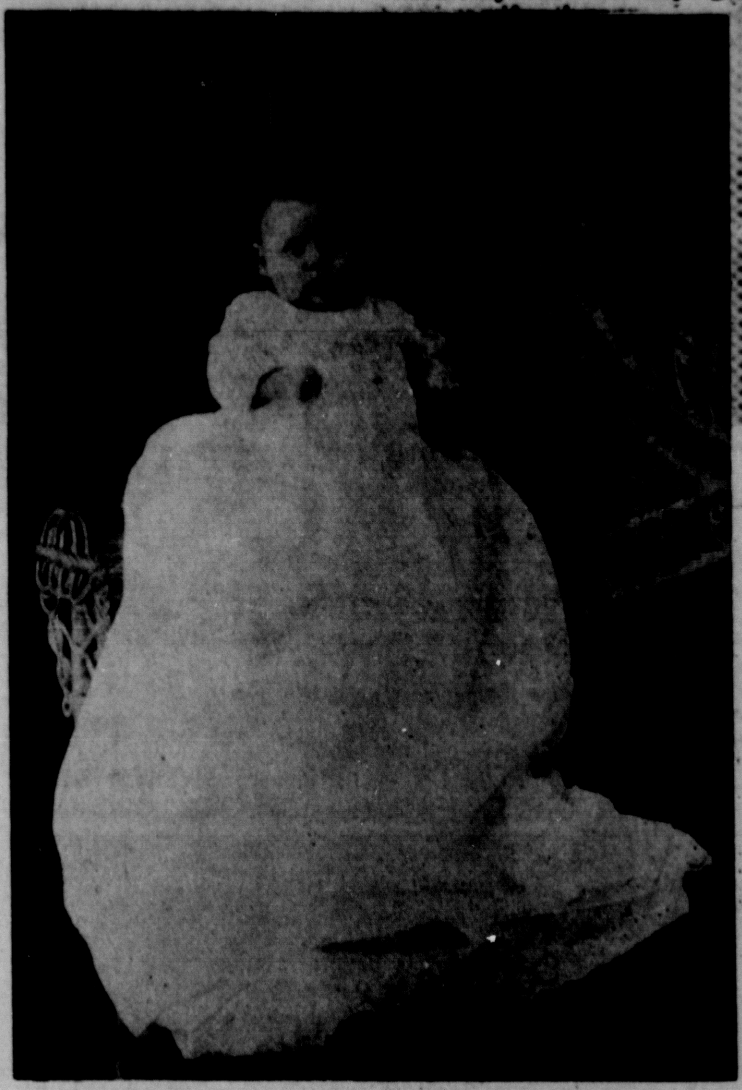
The big stone building today looks more the way it did when first completed than it appeared for almost 45 years. Because in 1893 an ornate clock tower was added. This was removed during a renovation campaign.

For some years around the turn of the century the courthouse was the hub of activity for farmers and cattlemen coming into town, and to beautify the courthouse grounds with walks, lawns and flower beds.

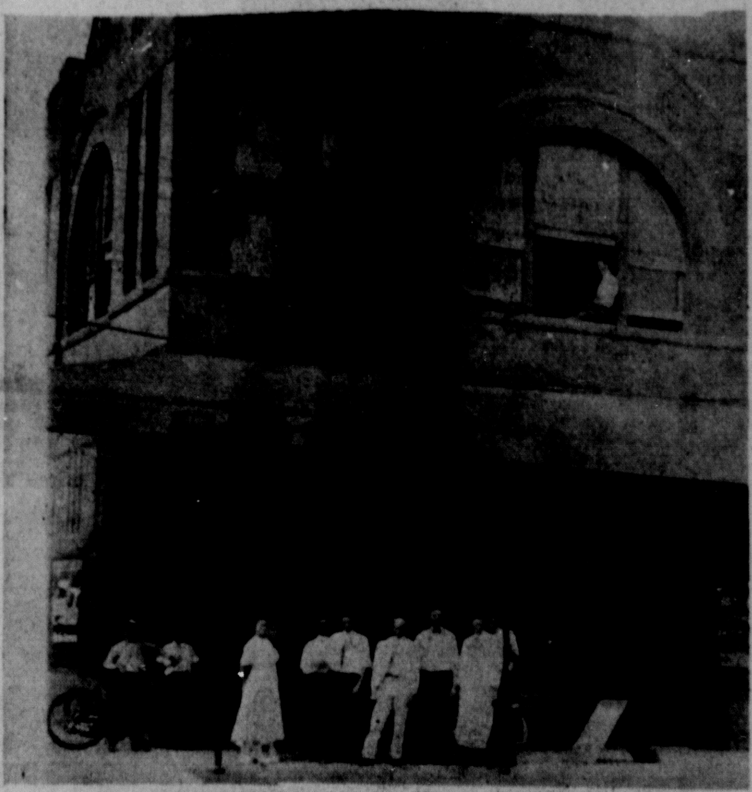
During the following years more changes were made on the building. A basement gave the county clerk and tax collector more office space. And around 1939 the statue of Ben Milam was erected on the southwest corner of the grounds.

iron hitching posts and a watering trough or two were ranged along the north curb for their use.

These gradually gave way with the coming of automobiles -- and perhaps more especially after pressure from the women of the Civic League, who considered them none too attractive, when they started a campaign



SEAMSTRESSES of today could make five dresses from the one shown here on Sadie Walston back around 1890. Also note the artistic work displayed in the love seat.



EARLY CAMERON street scene. Note the dentist sitting in the second story window. Courtesy Mrs. H. H. Chamberlain.

200 YEARS OF PROGRESS

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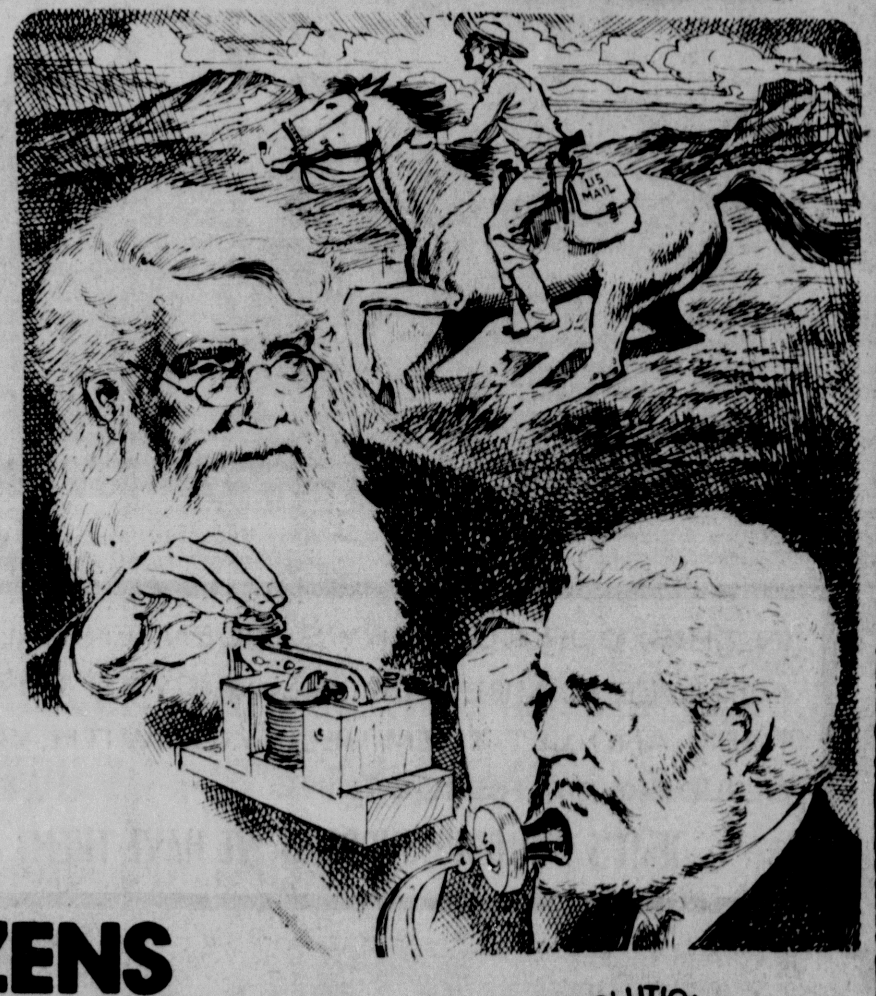

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AMERICAN REVOLUTION BICENTENNIAL 1776-1976

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CLARKSON SCHOOL, 1916-17. Courtesy Lester Turner

BUCKHOLTS PICNIC parade in 1899. Courtesy Buckholts State Bank.

LODGE MEETING in early day Cameron. One of the men was identified as Cap Wolf, father of the late Penn Wolf. Courtesy Grady Allen.

PROGRESS
1776 - 1976

AMERICAN REVOLUTION BICENTENNIAL 1776-1976

Milam Auto Supply is nine years young. During those nine years we have been in line with the progressive spirit of America by offering you more services, more products (to our original line of auto parts we systematically added hardware items, lawn & garden tools, a complete paint line and our newest rental service -- 'Everything to Fix Anything') and at tantalizing prices. Thank you good people of America for helping us move forward. It has been and is a pleasure to serve you.

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THIS STORE operated in Cameron in the 1800s and was owned by Frank C. and Joe Mondrik. Courtesy Mrs. Walter Lester.

THE BLACKSMITH shop of W. L. Lutner, early Cameron resident.

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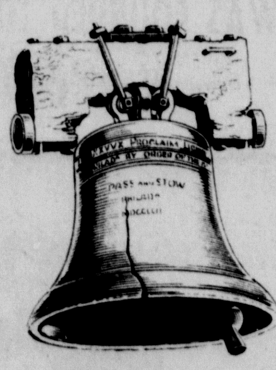
1776
1976



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Indians Plagued Early Milam Settlers

(Editor's note: These accounts are excerpts from "Milam County from 1836 to 1870, by Mary Belle Batte.)

These relate to Indian experiences of early settlers on the present site of Cameron.

In 1838, Shapley Prince Ross reached Texas, and located for a time near old Nashville. Ross exchanged two horses and a wagon for fifteen hundred acres of land; finally in 1839, by exchange of lands, he was located near Little River on the present site of Cameron. He was a neighbor of Captain Daniel Monroe, Giles O. Sullivan, Rev. Mr. Lox Lisle, Edward Worthan and J. J. Turnham. These banded together for mutual protection, promising to stand by each other through all hazards.

During the year 1840, there was only one Indian disturbance in the new settlement, when some friendly Tonkawas killed a woman from another tribe.

The year 1841 was a hard one for the settlers. Little River overflowed, and most of the settlers were forced to abandon their homes. Flood had carried away nearly all of their stock, crops, and provisions. For five or six months, they were forced to do without bread, and to live almost entirely on meat, milk and honey. Sometime during the year, W. S. Wilson and Benjamin Bryant settled above them on Little River.

In 1842 the Indians discovered the settlement. Ross was the proud possessor of a fine blooded mare, but fearing to bring her with him to the new country, he had kept her in Caldwell. But as the years passed so peacefully, he brought the animal to the settlement, and let her graze near the house with a "drag rope" around the neck.

Ross was awakened one night by sounds like the hooting of owls, one owl answering the hoot of another. Then came the sound like the whinney of a colt. Convinced that Indians were near, he rushed for his mare, but she trotted off and was soon in the hands of the Indians. Then the thieves went to Captain Monroe's house and succeeded in taking the horses before the man could prevent it.

In all, they siezed seven horses, practically all in the neighborhood, so they felt secure from being caught. About two hundred yards from Ross's, Captain George B. Erath had camped with a surveying party. The captain was at Nashville, but he had left in camp a pair of leather pants, which contained bear grease. The Indians tied the legs of the pants and filled them with corn, and put them across the neck of a horse in front of an Indian. The horse, not enjoying the odor of the bear grease, bucked and pitched so the corn spilled along the path and offered a route for the later pursuers.

The settlers soon gathered for the chase. Shapiey Woolfork, a nephew of Ross, had saved his horses, and Wilson furnished mules for Sullivan and Scott. The Indians were camped not far from Major Bryant's house, but seemed not to have discovered it. The settlers spent the night in watchful waiting at Bryant's, and were joined the next morning by young William Bryant and Daniel McKay.

The Indians, not expecting pursuit, were careless of their tracks. The settlers, passing over Pilot Knob between Elm Fork and Little River, finally came upon the Indians in Pilot Knog Valley, skinning buffalo. Rain had wet the powder and had rendered the guns useless. The guns, however, were used as clubs.

It is impossible to give the details of the story. Bryant and Monroe each clubbed an Indian to death. The panic-stricken mules prevented Scott and Sullivan from taking as active a part as they would have taken in the fight. Big Foot, the chief of the Indians mounted on Monroe's horse, and followed by a small Indian, tried to escape to a thicket, one of those islands of trees so common in that section. Finally, Big Foot went head foremost into a ravine. Woolfork and Ross dismounted, and worked their way down, and there was a hand to hand fight. Ross killed Big Foot. Meanwhile Woolfork killed the little Indian.

One day, soon after the fight, 33 Indians came to the Ross home. Naturally, Ross, sick with fever, thought that his time and that of his family had come. But when they arrived the chief made signs of peace, and perceiving a brush of peacock feathers, decorated each of his warriors with a feather. Then they demanded watermelons and roasting ears. They were supplied with these, but when the demand came for meat, Captain Ross told them that all his cattle had been killed and advised them to call upon Captain Monroe.

While awaiting developments, the Indians revealed that they were Wacos, and that five of their men had been on a thieving expedition. This led to the belief that Big Foot and his men were the five.

The savages obtained meat at Monroe's, then next day they went to W. S. Wilson's where they recognized the scalp of one of their comrades. That night one of Wilson Negroes was killed and depredations might have been made at Ross' home had it not been for the unearthly screams of Armistead, a slave owned by Ross.

In 1843, five Indians made a raid on the settlement and stole the horse that brought Captain Ross back from the Mier expedition. They could not be pursued for want of horses. This was the only incident of failure to pursue occurring in the community.

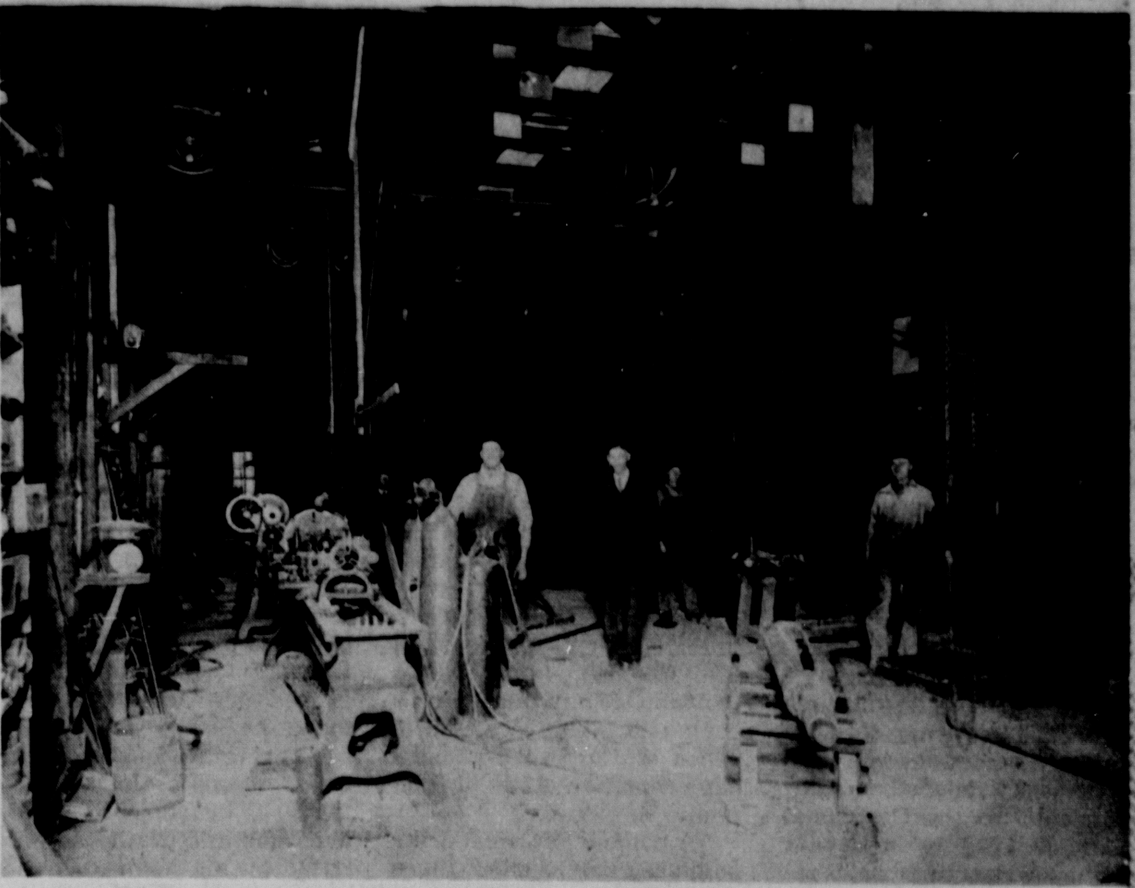
In July, 1843, Wilson discovered the trail of about 100 Indians in the neighborhood of the Bryant home. He reported this and quickly the neighbors gathered. The women and children of the settlement were taken to one house and left in the care of two slaves.

As there were no horses, the settlers proceeded on foot. They went into camp by Bryant's when it was reported that the Indians had just driven one of the slaves from the field.

Reinforcements of 30 men arrived. George B. Erath and Monroe had each refused the captaincy of the group and Dick Teal was placed in command. He supposed the Indians were camped at a waterhole not far away, but they were not to be found. Afterwards it was learned that they were trying to get the whites into the bottoms. Fearing they had planned to attack the women and children at the settlement, Ross, Monroe and Turnham were sent to protect the families.

Captain Thomas I. Smith brought reinforcement; the white men now numbered about 50. The Indians concealed themselves in two lines, lying down on the grass, and tried to get the settlers to pass between them. More reinforcement came, and the Indians set fire to the grass and entered the cedarbrakes.

A few days later Ross, Morris Moore and Armistead were hunting on Elm Creek. Ross was trying to settle some bees, when he discovered nearby a group of Indians. He wanted to fight them there, but it was decided to meet them at the settlement. About 9 that night, the Indians came down, but they were put to flight by one shot from the gun of Jack Angel, a young Englishman.



CAMERON MACHINE SHOP, one of Cameron's older businesses. Left rear, Ralph Michalka; left front not identified but believed to be a Michalka, center front, Bill Michalka; right back, Frank Hanel; right front, Frank Michalka.

SPJST LODGE in Buckholts that was burned down in 1934 by would-be vank robbers, who set it afire in an attempt to attract attention while they robbed the bank. But thanks to an alert blacksmith the bank was warned in time and the robbers were foiled. Courtesy Buckholts State Bank.

GROCERY STORE owned by Atkinson, Freeman, and Butts in the early 1900s. The young man with knee pants and hat is H. H. Stedman, who now owns Hefley-Stedman Ford Agency. He workee as a delivery boy for the store. Courtesy Mrs. H. H. Chamberlain.

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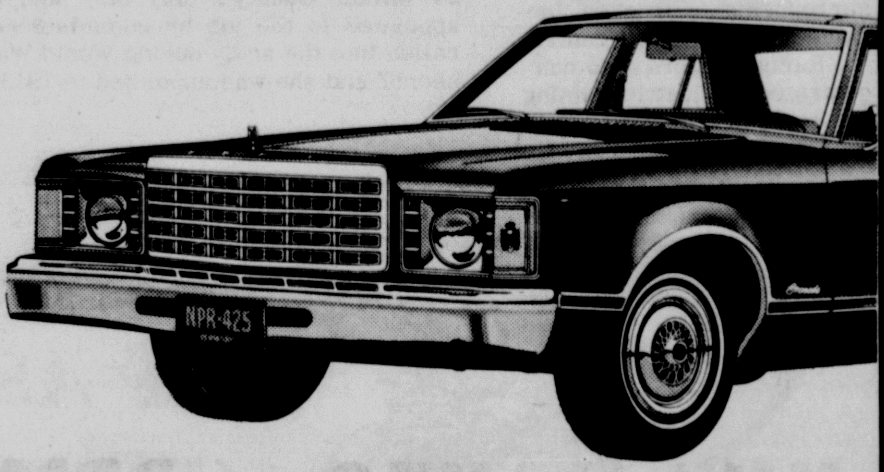

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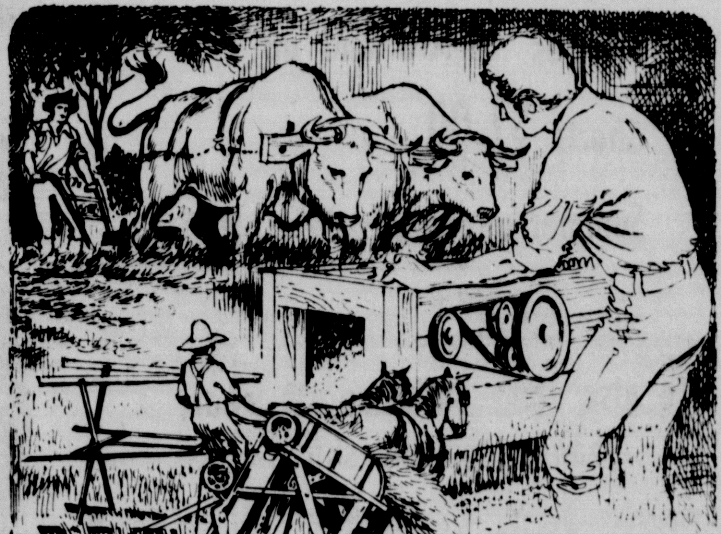

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AMERICAN REVOLUTION BICENTENNIAL 1776-1976

HIGHWAY 77 NORTH CAMERON, TEXAS 697-6551

BUSINESSMEN in early day Cameron pose. From left are Quinn Walker, W. H. Triggs, T. S. Henderson, U. S. Hearrell, D. B. Worcester, William R. Rogers, and E. E. Stiz.

Pioneers Graves Mark Cemetery

"The Old Cemetery," one mile east of Cameron, is a two-acre tract of land outlooking Little River.

Pioneers, slaves, confederate soldiers and the wife of a Cameronite who became lieutenant governor of Louisiana are buried there.

Here is how the story was told in the Centennial year of 1949 by a Herald feature writer:

"Many are unaware of the history and romance to be found in the old enclosure. In one unmarked grave lies the dust of Daniel Monroe and his wife, Sallie, who donated the 60-acre tract of land, Nov. 17, 1845, on which the city of Cameron was built. Monroe was captain of a ranger company during the presidency of Sam Houston and defended Cameron from many an Indian raid.

"The oldest marked graves in the cemetery are those of the Harmon family. Two children of this family were buried in 1849. Mrs. Hallie Jones Woffard is a present day representative of that family in Cameron.

"A number of Confederate soldiers are buried there and their graves are decorated by members of the Daughters of the Confederacy each year. Among them is Major J. C. Rogers, who commanded Company G of the Fifth Texas Regiment, Hood's Brigade, which marched away from the courthouse in Cameron to join the ranks of Lee's army in Virginia in 1861. C. P. Wilkerson, F. W. Smith, John Harmon, D.D. Arnold and the father of the late Mayor W. W. Chambers and perhaps other Confederate soldiers whose graves are lost, also rest there.

"During Reconstruction Days a troop of Union soldiers was quartered in Cameron and in a brawl one was killed by his comrades and buried in the Old Cemetery. Though his name is unknown, the grave of this "Yankee" soldier is kept green on the annual decoration day.

"Probably the finest monument in the cemetery was erected 75 years ago by a young man, James Jeffries, a former district clerk of Milam County, who later became lieutenant governor of Louisiana. To his young wife, Annie, and her brother, this marble monument was erected and surrounded by an ornamented iron fence set upon masonary. The fence now shows the ravages of time and decay.

"Some slaves are buried near their masters. Most of these graves are unmarked, but one simple monument erected by a white friend marks the grave of Lawson Woods, a former slave of the Wilson-Sampson family."

About 12 years ago Ed Westbrook, assisted by Lester Turner, headed the effort to clean up the cemetery.

Fertile Land Beckoned

When the original area of Milam County was opened for colonization in 1834, the fertile lands of Central Texas awaited hundreds of pioneers from Southern states.

Part of a history written about Milam County by Mrs. Earl Moseley for the 1946 Centennial of Cameron tells the story:

"When the governor of Coahuila (the Spanish ruler) and Texas permitted S. C. Robertson to issue land titles in 1834, there was opened to the first comers free land in the virgin tract practically as large as many of the states from which they came. It was said that the soil on these "weed prairies" was so fertile that all that was needed was to burn off the weeds and procure an ordinary hoe and with this simple system of husbandry, the industrious farmer would be rewarded from 40 to 50 bushels of corn or 500 pounds of clean cotton fit for market.

"Cotton raising on a large scale began with the importation of the Negro slaves in the early 1850s and the establishment of large plantations.

"The Civil War disrupted the plantation system but cotton remained a principal crop. In 1887 when more than half of the farm acreage was planted in cotton, 23 percent of the crop was destroyed by drought, but the county produced that year 4,773 bales of cotton which was valued at $576,147.

"By 1935 the county was producing 40 to 70 thousand bales annually. Having this surrounding, Cameron became a great cotton center.

"Early settlers also concentrated on cattle raising and some of the finest herds in Texas were found in Milam County.

"Tons and tons of melons, cantaloupes, fruit, tomatoes, and sweet potatoes were shipped out each year, which produced an industry, a fruit packing shed. Pecans, corn, and peanuts were shipped out by carloads.

"Realizing the need of a person to look after agricultural interests, Milam was the first county to appoint a county agent. In 1908 George Banzhaf was the first agent to be appointed and served 32 years.

"In 1912 the first county club was organized by Mrs. Edna Trigg, who was a Milam County school teacher. That club was called "The Tomato Club," and grew into the 4-H Club."

LADY SHERIFF--Mrs. Sarah White, wife of the county tax assessor collector Valter White, served as Milam County's only lady sheriff when she was appointed to the job by commissioners. White was called into the army during World War II when he was sheriff and she was appointed in 1943-44.

Stirring Tale Told Of Old Jail

A stirring tale may be told of a wife's devotion to her erring husband from an incident that happened in Cameron's first jail. (It was torn down about 1890 along with courthouse prior to the present one and replaced with the red brick, multi-towered one of today, according to a Herald Centennial story.)

"It was a log cabin with a cellar some seven feet below the ground floor where the prisoners were kept.

"Joel Walker had killed a man and was in jail. His wife rode his fine horse up to the jail and left it outside, and entered the first floor of the prison with a request to see her husband.

"The jailer opened the trap door into the cellar and lowered a light ladder into the darkness below. He called Joel up to see his wife.

"When Joel had climbed up, the jailer turned to draw the ladder after him and as he turned, Mrs. Walker threw a heavy shawl over his head and pinioned his arms, callings to her husband to jump on his horse and ride for his life.

"Joel was gone like a flash. Finally the jailer freed himself from Dorothy's frantic clutches and attempted to fasten the door with a heavy iron bolt. But she, just as the bolt was falling thrust her hand into the socket and the bolt fell on it with a crushing force.

"Her hand was maimed for life but she learned to use it, and later earned quite a reputation for fancy knitting."

We're diversifying our "mix" of generating plant fuels... to keep your electric service dependable.

For more than 30 years, natural gas was the only fuel used in Texas Power & Light Company generating plants. It was economical in cost and there was an abundant supply available.

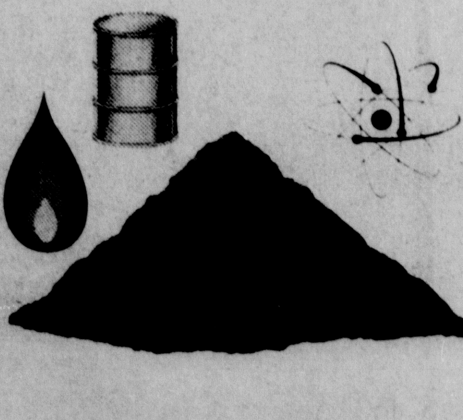
However, in recent years, the cost of gas has risen enormously and the supply is becoming increasingly uncertain.

During periods of cold weather in the last several years, and again this year, supplies of gas were curtailed drastically. TP&L used large quantities of oil to keep its plants operating.

Since 1971, TP&L has been steadily reducing its dependency on gas and oil with plants which use lignite coal as fuel. Lignite is a more economical fuel and it's readily available from huge deposits right here in Texas. Electricity is now being produced by two lignite-fueled plants in the TP&L area, one other is under construction and others are being planned.

TP&L and two other North Texas electric companies have a nuclear-fueled plant under construction. The first of two generating units is scheduled to be placed in operation in 1980 and the second in 1982.

It's essential that TP&L continue planning and building new generating plants to make possible use of lower cost and more readily available fuels and, at the same time, keep your electric service dependable.



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Cameron Not Always County Seat

Cameron was not the first county seat of Milam County, but assumed that role in 1846 about nine years after the first county seat had been designated.

Mrs. Earl Moseley described the selection of Cameron as county seat in the Centennial history of Cameron written in 1946:

"Upon the suggestion of Chie f Justice Farley, who pointed out in a letter to the Secretary of State (of the Republic of Texas) on April 16, 1837, that all of the settlements in Milam County were in its southern portion, Nashville becaue the first county seat, continuing so throughout the period of the Republic of Texas.

"That did not seem to be the permanent county seat for records show that on various occasions court was held at Caldwell. However, an act of the first legislature provided for the establishment of a permanent county seat by appointing seven commissioners to select the site.

"And early in May, 1846, the site for the town was laid off by A. W. Sullivan, Benjamin Bryant, John Hobson, and Daniel Monroe. The place chosen was in the post oaks 1 1/2 miles east of the Little River on the Daniel Monroe league and the commissioners named the new seat of justice "Cameron" in honor of Ewing Cameron, a member of the Mier Expedition. Cameron, who was shot by order of Santa Anna, when he faced the firing squad, bared his breast and was heard to cry defiantly: 'I will show you how brave Americans can die!'"

"Cameron has remained the county seat of Milam County throughout these years, having had four couthouses built. The first elections of the county were held in August, 1846, with the following chosen: Issac Standifer, chief justice; John McClenna, sheriff; F. T. Duffan, county clerk; and W. W. Oxsheer, district clerk.

"The first building erected was the courthouse. The second house built in Cameron was put up by C. M. Hubby, a hewed log cabin affair, which was opened as a mercantile establishment, the principal article of merchandise being whiskey. The building stood near the location of McLane Wholesale on the east side of the square.

"A little later, George Burney and John Blair put up a tavern where the jail now stands, and soon some residences and some business houses, including a double walled log jail, gave Cameron the air of a regular business center.

"The spiritual needs of the people in these early days were administered to by the itinerant ministry, supplemented by neighborhood prayer meetings. Church buildings were scare but settlers' houses were always open for gatheringsof a religious nature and when an extraordinary gathering was promised, often resort had to be made to what the poet has called God's first temples, the spreading trees.

"Many times church was held in the courthouse in Cameron and union Sunday School was held in the first school house.

"During the early part of 1847, the Methodists effected an organization in Milam County with the Rev. J. W. Whipple the presiding elder, in charge. The first Baptist church in the county was organized at Little River in 1849 and in October, 1855, the Little River Baptist Assocation was formed of churches in six counties.

"The first church in Cameron was organized in 1853 by the Baptists

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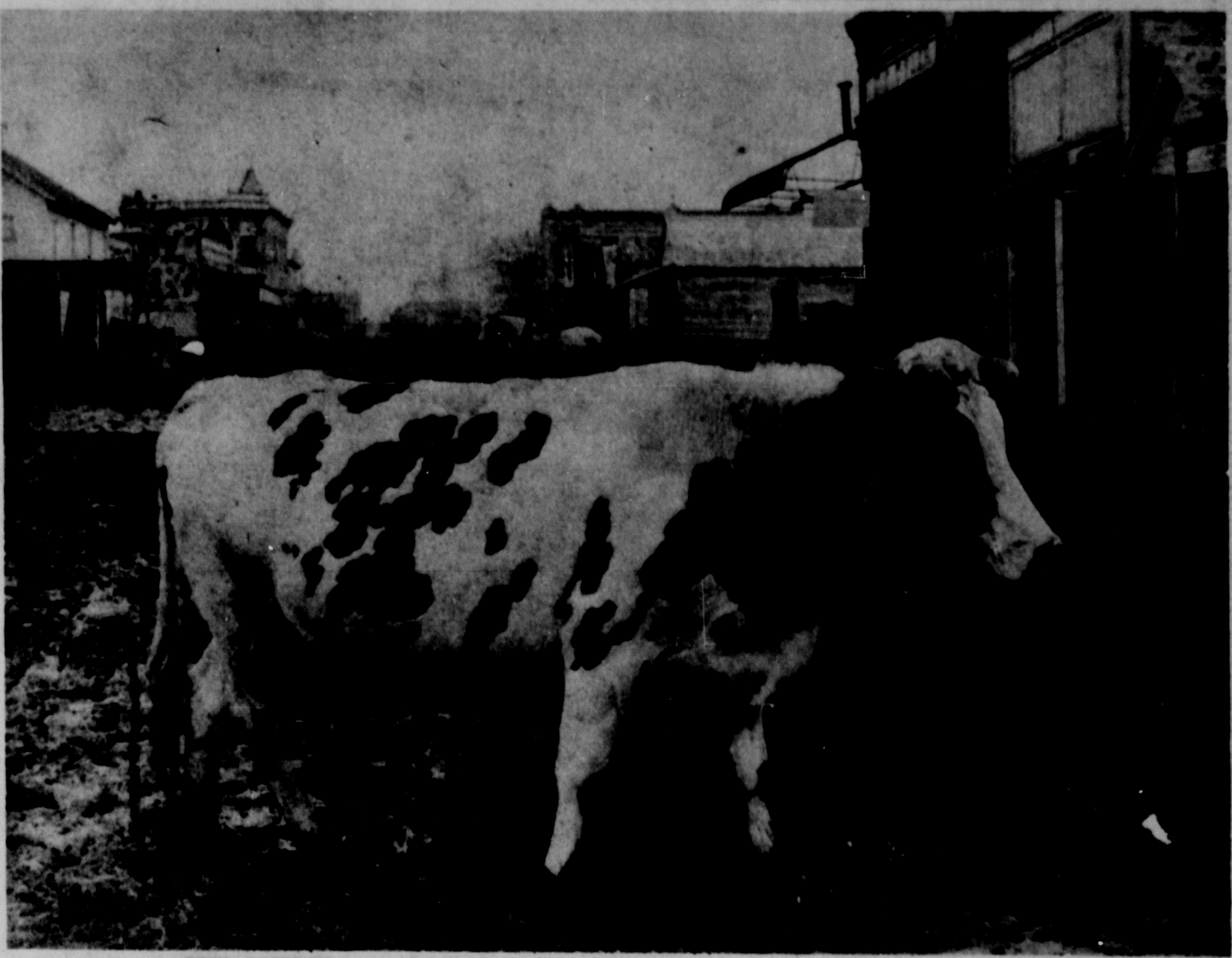

COW AMBLES across mud street on the north side of the courthouse square in 1892.

Oil History Covers Over 50 Years

By Wayne C. Pemberton

For more than 50 years many wells have been drilled in Milam County and during that time there have been many lease plays.

The south and east part of the county is traversed by the Mexia-Luling-Talco fault system. Recent geophysical work has indicated the presence of large structural closures against these faults.

A number of these faults are visible at the surface and may be traced for many miles.

Recent drilling operations have proven this fault is from seven to eight hundred feet thick at a depth of 4,000-6,000 feet and it is believed the thickness of the fault increases with depth.

In drilling to the depth of the Smackover formation in the south and east part of the county, whic h is from 10,000 to 14,000 feet in depth, 17 formations would be penetrated. Most of these formations are known to be oil bearing in the state of Texas.

As of this date, there have been several fields brought in the county, and some of them are:

Rockdale Minerva Field was found in 1921, the discovery well being one mile from Minerva and the pay was penetrated between 600-700 feet. This field extended in to the town of Rockdale and produces from one of the Navarro sands and has produced more than six million barrels of oil.

Another Navarro Field was found approximately 30 years ago located about four miles northwest of Milano in the Griffin Chapel area. Several of these wells are still producing.

Another Navarro Field was found in the Rice community area about 25 years ago, and is known as the Sandy Creek Field.

In 1949 Byrd Oil Co. found oil in the Edwards Lime on the Lucinda Green and Modest Blakely tracts. These wells produced for a short time.

In 1953, D. H. Byrd, president of the Byrd Oil Co. found gas in the Gause field in the Glenrose and Pettit Formation.

In 1966 the Milbur field was discovered. It is located on the Milam and Burleson county lines south of Milano. It produces from the Wilcox at approximately 2,700 feet and the Navarro formation at approximately 3,300 feet.

In 1968 or 1969, Byron Rose discovered Navarro "B;' sand on the Ray Woods property. This field is known as the Cherokee Field. It also produces from the Austin Chalk formation. There are several Austin Chalk wells in this area and they extend to the south and west to Elevation Junction.

In 1966 W. C. Pemberton and Association found oil in the Navarro "A" Formation on the J. L. and Elnora Lamkin, Lela McLerran, and H. P. Culpepper tracts, located 3 1/2 miles southeast of Cameron.

In 1969, W. C. Pemberton and Associates discovered gas on the Marjorie Jordon tract. This Navarro is known as the Navarro "C" formation. There are three producting gas wells in this field.

Within the last five years, J. A. Leonard found production in the Navarro "B" sand, which is located four or five miles from the Milbur field. Hollub, with Hollub Drilling Company found a new field four miles south of Rockdale. It is known as the Bulloh Field.

In 1973, United Producing Company, found pay in th Navarro "C;' sand approximately three miles northeast of Milano. This field is known as the Pemberton Field

SIDESADDLE is used by early day Milam lady rider. Courtesy Phoebe Macek.

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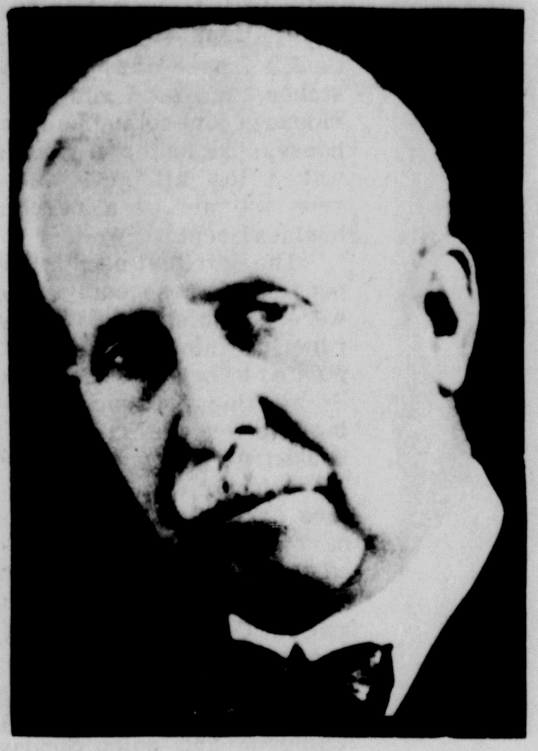

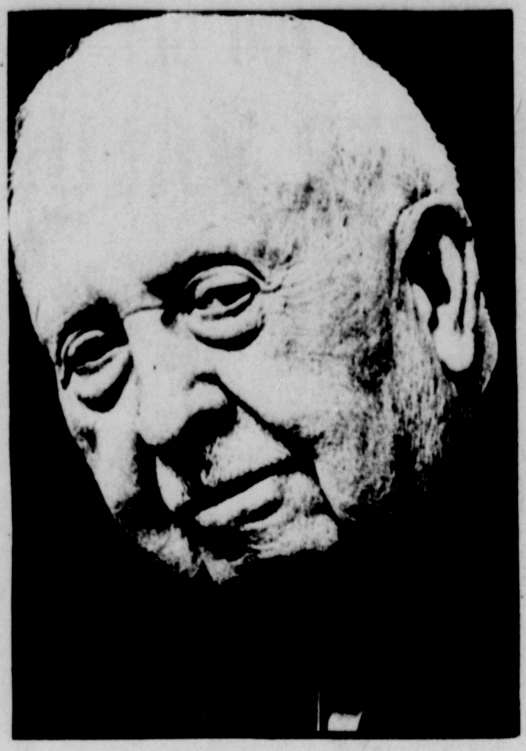

"How it all began---"

James Cash Penney's father's name was James Cash Penney. The middle name was a family name, not chosen to express his retail philosophy as many people still believe today.

Penney's father was a farmer and unordained Primitive Baptist minister in Missouri. When Penney was three, the family put a second mortgage on the farm in order to buy a house close to schools in nearby Hamilton. The home, too, had a mortgage on it.

Penney made his first capital investment at the age of eight. He had saved $2.50 running errands at a nickel an errand. He put the whole $2.50 into the pig business.

He was too successful. His pig population explosion brought complaints from the neighbors. He sold out for $60, a 2,300% return on investment. He put the money into *two* banks in case one of them failed.

At twelve, Penney tried horse-trading. Then he raised watermelons. Then he got a job at J. M. Hale and Brother's dry goods store in Hamilton. Mr. Hale paid him$2.27 a month, the price of two pairs of cheap shoes.

When Penney left Mr. Hale's store he was earning $300 a year. Hale had given him a $100 raise but the family doctor sent him off to a dry climate for his health. It must have been good medical advice. Penney lived to be ninety-five.

Penney went to Denver. He tried a job in another dry goods company, bought and sold a butcher shop in Longmont. Then he went to work for T. M. Callahan who ran a dry goods store in Longmont.

Callahan had a partner who ran another store in Evanston, Wyoming. Penney transferred there at the respectable salary of $50 a month. After two years he was made a partner and opened the "mother store" in Kemmerer. He was twenty-seven.

The only ambition Penney had that he didn't achieve was to live to be a hundred. He missed by five years. He was in remarkably good health the year he died except for failing eyesight. He used to say "my eyesight is failing, but my vision is unimpaired."

On his second last birthday, he was asked how it felt to be 94. "I'm very happy to be ninety four," he said. "Especially when I consider the alternative."

"The beginning of a retailing giant---"

Any market research man could prove to you in fifteen minutes that James Cash Penney's store would never fly.

In the whole of 1902 America, the man could hardly have picked out a less promising location than Kemmerer, Wyoming. He made the commitment in dollars before he'd even seen the town. He felt he couldn't afford to pay the train fare twice.

Kemmerer was a scattered mining community of a thousand inhabitants with a company store that sold just about anything that anyone in Kemmerer wanted, except maybe a train ticket to somewhere else. The store sold for credit, which was the way of life. A good part of the town's short supply of cash went into its 21 saloons.

Penney didn't believe in credit. He decided to sell only for cash. The town's leading banker told him this decision was the next thing to a death wish.

Penney financed the operation with $500 he'd saved up, a note for $1,500 drawn on a Hamilton, Mo. bank, and the help of two equal partners.

The name of the store was "The Golden Rule." "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you." This was pretty revolutionary doctrine for the free-and-easy retail business of the time. It was also pretty idealistic stuff for a town with a saloon for every 50 men, women, and children.

But as just about every American over five knows today, James Cash Penney made it, in the true American Horatio Alger fashion. He made it by working longer, harder, and smarter than most other people. He set a pattern for integrity and responsibility that businessmen today might study profitably. He did a lot of dreaming, and a lot of hard planning, too. If he was lucky, it was only because he put a lot of faith in a lot of people who turned out to deserve it.

An important part of Penney's idea was taking in working partners. The plan was simple. The emphasis was on the word, working. When a young man working in Penney's store showed promise, and had worked long enough and saved hard enough to save up a few hundred dollars, another Golden Rule Store was born. The young man invested his savings and Penney put in the rest.

In 1907, there were three Golden Rule stores, all near each other, in Kemmerer, Rock Spring, and Cumberland. Penney bought out his absentee partners. They sold him their shares for a $30,000 note which he paid back in a year.

In 1907, Penney hired a 23-year-old midwestern country boy named Earl Sams as his "first man" in Kemmerer. A few months later, Penney sent Sams to run the store in Cumberland at $75 a month. Ten years later Sams was making $75,000 a year. Before he died, while Chairman of the Board, Earl Sams was to be instrumental in the expansion of the Company from three stores into a chain of sixteen hundred.

In 1909, the first three stores had grown to six. In 1910, there were 14. The partners added 8 stores in 1911, 12 more in 1912. By 1913, there were 48 Golden Rule stores.

Penney was thirty-eight years old. Sams was twenty-nine. The business was eleven.

"Lines from the pen of Mr. Penney---"

ABOUT TIME AND ITS USE

"Clock watchers never seem to be having a good time"

ABOUT SUCCESS AND PRINCIPLES

"Success has no secrets. The only "secret" is actually no secret; it is: to give Christian principles a chance to show what they can do, and in turn Christian principles will point the way to opportunity to show what you can do.

"When I say success has no secrets I am thinking of the Golden Rule as the pathway. There are certainly no secrets about the Golden Rule."

ABOUT "LUCK"

"I never believed in 'luck.' Growth and success don't come by chance. Determination, sacrifice of non-essentials, perservance and hard work are all the luck needed."

ABOUT DECEPTIVE ADVERTISING

"The merchant who prepares to 'fool' his customers into his store, begins by fooling himself."

"UPON THE JUST AND THE UNJUST"

"When our business was started in 1902, I was unalterably convinced that practice of Christian principles was essential for success. I have certainly seen success come to men who ignored Christian principles altogether. If anything, it only strengthens my conviction."

ABOUT MEANING IN LIFE

"Man's natural expression is work."

ABOUT AGRICULTURE

"My business heavily impressed on my mind the bond between stores and rural people. We could have prosperity only if the farmer had prosperity. . ."

ABOUT SUCCESSFUL MEN

"It has been a matter of both great pleasure and interest to me to observe one common bond between successful men. They are incurable optimists."

ABOUT LIFE

"There isn't much zest to rowing in slack water."

ABOUT PRINCIPLES

"Principles, adapted to business, will work. Nowadays one hears considerable about the necessity for using 'gimmics' if one wants to do business successfully. I believe that principles, sincerely applied, will work a magic which 'gimmics' never can."

ABOUT "SHADING" PRICES

"In 1895, two brothers. . . the Hales. . . owned a dry goods store. Mr. Hale agreed to hire me. . .for $2.27 per month! Before long, they permitted me to use my judgement about prices. Although I don't remember hearing any talk on the ground of it's being unethical, I never liked shading prices. To me it was not only unethical, but poor practical policy, too. This was amply proven one hot summer afternoon at a picnic of local farmers. Two men turned up wearing identical suits bought at Hales. It came out speedily that each man had paid a different price. It took the one who had paid the regular price quite a while to get over his grudge."

(Later on. . .after young Mr. Penney had found employment in Denver. . .)

"Almost at once I ran into the two-price system. 'If you can't sell the socks in the 25¢-a-pair box; the proprietor ordered, 'sell those in the 2-for-a-quarter-box; the point is, sell socks!' The socks were the same in both boxes. I didn't like the idea of the two prices. 'But that isn't honest! I objected.

'Sell Socks, don't give me your opinion! my employer cried. I knew well enough what my father's advice would be if he were alive. I collected my wages and left the job."

"DO UNTO OTHERS. . ."

"Not long ago I came across a dismaying statement made by a man who has achieved great success over a long period of time in the world of entertainment.

" 'A man can't live on principles; this man said. It shocked me but it startled me, too, for it was so contrary to my practical experience. We started out by lining up our business dealings with the Golden Rule. I am often asked whether the Golden Rule, obviously a 'nice deal,' hasn't become obsolete as an instrument for life in a practical world. I have to answer that, in the years since the beginnings in Kemmerer, I have never found any good reason to desert it.

"For more than ten years after starting out under it, at Kemmerer, I kept the name Golden Rule Store for doing business. It was more than a painted sign, it was the remembered voices and example of my parents, the principle they lived by and instilled.

"I believe firmly that, without having kept our hold on the principle in everyday practice, there would be no JCPenney Company today."

ABOUT COMPETITION

'The best friend a progressive merchant can have is a fair competitor.

"We benefit any life situation and ourselves through competition."

ABOUT THE COMPANY PRINCIPLES

"The principles underlying our company, and the company motto brought each other into being, you might say, at about the same time. We designated the principles as our Original Body of Doctrine. While I wouldn't say they are always easy to apply in business, I think people often have an idea that it requires 'nerve' and is harder than actually it is.

"These are the components of the Original Body of Doctrine for our company:

--To serve the public as nearly as we can to its complete satisfaction.

--To offer the best possible dollar's worth of quality and value.

--To strive constantly for a high level of intelligent and helpful service.

--To charge a fair profit for what we offer, and not all the traffic will bear

--To apply this test to everything we do: Does it square with what is right and just?"

ABOUT POTENTIAL IN PEOPLE

"No matter what his position or experience in life may be, every person possesses more latent than developed ability, and far more unused power than he is using."

"THRU OUR OWN NOSE"

"A young relative was making rather hard work of familiarizing himself with a habit of a certain character-building type. My uncle understood, and sympathized. 'Let him be,' he advised. 'He's got to breathe it thru his own nose!'

"Golden Rule practice is a bit like that. We'll be able to practice it when we breathe it through our own nose."

ABOUT PATIENCE

"Not long ago I was riding downtown in a bus. I got the impression that the majority of the passengers had, as we used to say, got up on the wrong side of the bed. The driver stood the brunt of absurd questions, quarrelsome demands that he change five-dollar bills and all the rest of it, with what we describe as the patience of Job. It happens that I am particularly devoted to the Book of Job, because of his sufferings and because he was tempted by the devil and resisted.

"By the time we reached my stop, harassment of the driver had fallen off somewhat. As the bus slowed down I said to him, 'I think you must be a Christian.' He looked startled, and I added, 'Your patience has been sorely tried this morning. You'd almost have to be a Christian to handle it.'

" 'Well,' he said with a broad smile, 'I try to be!' Before he closed the door he called after me, 'Now good mornin' to you, sir!'

"Little things, yes. But I wonder whether it isn't more little things than big, that make the world go round."

ABOUT GOD AND COUNTRY

"With God, we are everything. I have every confidence in our ability, with God, to keep our ledership in world affairs."

ABOUT FRIENDLINESS'

"What currents of good feeling are released when we take care to start out right, to practice from our waking moments creative pleasantness. The simple friendly word has a very long reach."

"39 Years On The Corner In Cameron"

Aug.12, 1937. . :Mr. Penney was 62 years old. . .and JC Penney Co. opened it's store in Cameron, Texas. We hope you still find the "Golden Rule" in practice at our recently remodeled store. Come shop us soon!

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